

EXPERIENCE JAPAN and ASIA IN NEW YORK CITY

MARCH 2015 Vol. 1 No. 1

CHOPSTICKS NY®

The Art of Sharing
Nabe Hot Pot
BBQ



Special Feature

SEASON OF JAPAN
at Asia Society

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The theme for the month's cover is "Nabe Hot Pot and BBQ". To find out more about it, check out the featured section on page 6.

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100% JAPAN

02 SEASON OF JAPAN

On the 80th anniversary of its founding by John D. Rockefeller III, Asia Society is hosting a series of exhibitions, events, and cultural programs throughout the year. SEASON OF JAPAN is the inaugural series featuring Japan which is held in conjunction with the exhibition *Kensaku, Realism and Spirituality in the Sculpture of Japan* (February 6–May 8).

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SEASON OF JAPAN and *Kamakura*: Realism and Spirituality in the Sculpture of Japan



Photo: Minneapolis Institute of Art

Enryaku (Vajrapāṇi) (Wild King of Vajra-holding Power)
Kamakura period, second half of 12th century
Wood with metal, polychrome, gilding, and red crystal eyes. H 57 1/2 x W 25 1/2 x D 38 in. (145.8 x 64.1 x 96.5 cm)

The year 2016 marks 60 years since the Asia Society was founded by John D. Rockefeller 3rd. To celebrate this anniversary, the Asia Society will host a series of exhibitions, events, and cultural programs throughout the year, and its inaugural series will feature Japan, Mr. Rockefeller's first stop in Asia.

SEASON OF JAPAN, consisting of performances, films, and talks, explores Japan's past, present, and future. The cultural events are held in conjunction with the exhibition, *Kamakura: Realism and Spirituality in the Sculpture of Japan* (February 9–May 8), the first major show of Kamakura sculpture in the United States in more than 35 years. Here, Dr. Joe Cohen, guest curator of the exhibition, gives us a cultural and historical context for these remarkable works of art.

Please tell us about some of the highlights of the exhibition.

The exhibition brings together three works by the master sculptor Kōkei (active ca 1180–1220), one of the most renowned sculptors in the early Kamakura period. These include the Shaka Nyōrai from the Kimbell Art Museum and the Jōze Bosatsu and Fudo Myōō from the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

Another highlight is the spectacular Danjaku Myōō from the Minneapolis Institute of Art, a rare example of a statue that retains its original bull base, also carved in a naturalistic Kamakura-period style. We show both the context and modes of sculptures by including photographs of inscriptions on the intarsia and by including the Jōze Bosatsu from the Museum of East Asian Art Calapan, which is accompanied by a whole array of sacred deposits originally packed inside the statue.

Finally, it is wonderful to be able to contextualize the Kamakura-period sculptures in the Rockefeller Collection at the Asia Society (including the Jōze Bosatsu, Nyōrai Kannon, Fudo Myōō, and Amida Nyōrai) with other masterpieces from the period.

What are the stylistic features of Buddhist sculptures during the Kamakura period?

Sculpture of the Kamakura period is more realistic than in previous eras. This is evident in the rendering of the body with a sense of breadth and life-like volume, in the carving of drapery with realistic folds, and in the use of rock crystal inserts for the eyes of sculptures. Figure deities often display dramatic facial expressions and vigorous movement. There is also Song-dynasty (960-1279) Chinese influence in the tall, elegant figures, furthering hairlines, and long fingernails of many sculptures. Rather than appearing staid and otherworldly, the icons have a sense of "real" presence before the viewer.

Is there any conspicuous difference between Japanese Buddhist sculptures from the Kamakura period and those from other parts of the world during the same time period?

In terms of technique, the insertion of rock crystal eyes is not something that we see elsewhere at this time, and the joined-woodblock technique (separately carving and then assembling multiple blocks of wood to make up a single sculpture) was also invented in Japan, albeit in the prewar Heisei period, and employed widely in the Kamakura period even for smaller statues. In terms of iconography, you have statues of deities and personages unique to Japan, such as Zen figures, Nichiren, and Shintō deities. Kamakura-period religion was often syncretic, such that worship of the native gods, the kami, went hand in hand with Buddhism; the Jōze Bonshū by Zhiyi in the show is a Buddhist deity on the outside, but the inscription reveals that he is also associated with one of the native kami of the Kasuga shrine.

Buddhist art in Japan is considered to have culminated during the Kamakura period. Why is this?

I wouldn't put it quite so strongly. The Kamakura period is certainly one of the "golden ages" of Japanese Buddhist sculpture, a time of great stylistic and technical innovations and the prolific creation of stunningly beautiful Buddhist icons. However, in Samuel Morse writes in the exhibition catalogue, demand for icons decreased at the end of the Kamakura period, as large-scale sculpture projects were no longer initiated in Kyoto and Nara. Declining aristocratic and temple fortunes contributed to this. Moreover, some of the forms of Buddhism that became popular over the course of the Kamakura

period (Zen Buddhism, Nichirenshū, Jōdo Shūshū) required lower or less elaborate sculptural icons for worship than the traditional Nara- and Kyoto-based sects. Still, broadly speaking, Buddhist art continued to flourish in later periods in other ways: in the Muromachi period (1332-1573), you have wonderful sculptural portraits of Zen masters, a flourishing ink-painting tradition, as well as beautiful painted handscrolls illustrating Buddhist legends and tales. Recent scholarship by Patricia Graham has illuminated the vibrant traditions of Buddhist art in the Edo period (1603-1868) and later. So I wouldn't see the word "culminated" in this context.

The Kamakura period is the first time in Japanese history when the samurai class took control of the government. How is this reflected in Buddhist art?

One of the factors driving the migration of Buddhist sculpture was the widespread destruction of temples in the Genpei War of 1180-85, the conflict that brought the Kamakura shogunate to power. Patronage of Buddhist art therefore expanded to include elite warrior families who founded their own clan temples and military temples in eastern Japan; sculptures traveled east to the Nara and Kyoto to execute commissions for these warriors. Shoguns and military leaders also patronized slides, established shrines and temples, and sponsored the creation of icons for these institutions. At the same time, we shouldn't forget that the aristocracy and imperial court continued to sponsor significant sculptural production in this period.

Please share some tips on how visitors with no knowledge of Buddhist arts or Japanese history can appreciate the sculptures and artworks presented in this exhibition.

Spent some time looking closely at each of the individual objects, there is much fine detail in the carving and surface decoration of the garments of the figures. Notice the vivid crystal eyes that rarely of the sculptures here; this was an innovation of the mid-twelfth century widely used in Kamakura-period sculpture, which really enliven the images. Notice also the deities that appear multiple times throughout the exhibition (including Jōze Bonshū, Fudo Myō, Bizenmonji, and Nyōzei Kannon). Think about the ways they are represented differently and similarly. Likewise, there are specific iconographic elements that appear across the various deities and objects, including the peacocks, the web-girdling jewel, and the vajra ritual scepter. Most of all, enjoy seeing all these works together as a group. Although many museums and collectors across the United States have significant examples of Kamakura sculpture, you can really get a sense of the period by experiencing them assembled in one space.



Dr. Lee Cowan is a lecturer in Art History at Fairfield University. She received her MA from Stanford University and PhD from Yale University. She is guest curator of the exhibition *Kamakura: Realism and Spirituality in the Sculpture of Japan* and editor of the exhibition catalogue.

The Kamakura Period and Buddhist Arts

The Kamakura period (1185-1333) is the last period in Japanese history in which powerful secular warrior clans challenged the imperial court that had dominated the political and cultural landscape for centuries. It was a time of political and social disruption which advanced Buddhist arts immensely. In the last war of the 1180s, the great Buddhist temples at the ancient capital of Nara burned to the ground. Despite the devastation, rebuilding and repopulating temples with new sculptures and paintings began immediately and renewed contact with the Asian mainland further invigorated the arts and religious practices.

Upcoming Programs in SEASON OF JAPAN

- Feb. 28 **Tanaka Japan / NCB and KYODEN**
Lecture/Demonstration
- Mar. 4-15 **Oh! Shinto, Samurai and War: A Series of Chinese Japanese Film**
- Mar. 9 **3-10 and 9-11 Evening Events**
Special commentary, discussions, and reception
- Mar. 24-25 **Symposium: Wabi Sabi**
Five talks of paper making in stage
- Apr. 26 **Monkey Business: Japan/Korean Writers' Dialogue**
Conversation with Japanese and American writers
- May 6 **Asian People's American Heritage Month Celebrations**
Live for happy hour
- June 4-6 **New York Japan Contact**

Asian Society and Museum, 325 Park Ave., Box 200, New York, NY 10021 | TEL: 212-255-6808 | www.asianociety.org

All Things New from Stores, Products to Events

CASE

Ring in 2016 with these Japan-Enhanced German Cakes

feat, taken on by baker/owner, SHD, requires forming the layers of cake rings by rotating and baking them on a long spit. To successfully look like a cross section of cake rings, the cake requires impeccable technique and patience, and the result is well worth it.

First, moose, and toehairs. Baumkuchen has its own unique texture that is refreshing in New York's never-ending landscape of sugary donuts. Diners can currently order *Platz*, *Bräule*, and *Gitter*. The cakes both originate at the cafe, while *flavors like Salted Chocolate and Rose* flowers are only available at the store. SHD promises to introduce countless flavor combinations that he has up his sleeve over the year. However, when you visit, make sure to ask about his current "secret menu," which will treat you to a live experience of watching SHD personally transform a giant block of glycerin chocolate over your cake. During March, *Chopsticks NY* readers who make a purchase either while in a piece of Baumkuchen, can get a piece of *Real Platz*. Risk *Platz*. \$6

What is Bräutchen? This is the question that BOUN'S SHED—the newest addition to NYC's competitive dessert scene—is prepared to answer: through your taste buds. This charming bakery, which just opened in South Williamsburg in late January, serves the traditional German "braided cake," which is reminiscent of a multi-layered croque cake, but is made in a completely different way. This labor-intensive



Looking for new ways to satisfy your sweet tooth? The Easter code is here to help.



Over 100 is personally selling their piece of Chrysler. How could you resist such a prospect?



This delicate Fanc Green Strawberry color is only available in the café and in a few restaurants.



Excellent industrial look meets Storage Modern. The focus is: **RAVIO S Shelving** usually unique.

BAUM'S 540 347 5th St. Brooklyn, NY 11240 | TEL 347.555.1967 | www.baums-540.com

REALITY

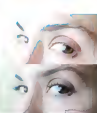
Lucia Lash: Find the New You with Eyelash Extensions

we are unique in that we keep a record/history of the treatment for each client, and this makes it easy for us to provide individualized services," says Ms. Moore. Lucio Lash's service menu includes regular lash extensions, such as the Natural Serf130 (natural), the Glamorous Serf180 (lash), and the Glamorous Serf200 (lash), as well as specialized ones like the Lashier Lash Serf 7 or 3 strands of lash extensions applied to each of your individual lashes and Eyelash Extensions. She suggests, "Eyelash extensions make a dramatic impression without any plastic surgery. After one to two hours, you can enjoy the new you."

Inside Luscious, which opened this past December, highly skilled Japanese eyelash extension stylists offer quality services with top-grade materials handmade by owner/eyelash extension stylist, Tamee Mason. "Here, one stylist does the entire process of lash extensions for one customer, from consulting to actually applying extensions, unlike most other lash extension salons in New York. Also, we



Mrs. Terence Moore, owner of Lucie's Linings, looks the better materials and techniques in the growing shoe luxury industry. At a time when stylish, less-Moore amenities, looking at Lucie's Linings' total beauty and designing a personalized look, not just stitching on the design of the material.



Expendable contractors do not require any credit or financial statement. By just applying materials to your business, you can get a lovely look for spring.

Lexipol, Inc. 101 MacDougal St., 3rd. Floor, Astoria, OR 97103 | TEL: 503-325-3100 | www.lexipol.com

BEAUTY

An Elegant Asian Spa with a Rooftop View

New Yorkers are always on the lookout for new ways to relax and find tranquility in this bustling metropolis of over eight million people. Now they have a new option with an Asian touch: Spa Castle Premier 52. Sister spa to the extensively popular Spa Castle in College Point, Queens, this elegant oasis offers luxurious amenities such as a year-round rooftop deck with several pools, hydrotherapy, hot tubs, saunas, and a collection of saunas featuring chromotherapy, infrared therapy, Himalayan salt, and even gold. The spa is also reminiscent of the ones found at the College Point location, albeit with a more upscale and high-end presentation.

Unique Asian wellness treatments including Korean Acupuncture, reflexology, and Korean body scrubs are available as well as facials, body massages, and body treatments. Guests will admire the sumptuously appointed rooms where many of these services are performed for both couples and individuals. There are also several different resting spaces where visitors can relax, including lounges, a sleeping room, and a meditation room. Admission costs \$95 for the day and guests are welcome to stay as long as they like between 11am and midnight. Some people even choose to work or check email quietly at the tablet station in the guest lounge after enjoying a freshly made smoothie, a ginormous Korean dish from the nearby Café Bura. The atmosphere at Spa Castle Premier 52 is relaxed and contemplative, perfectly suited to a peaceful getaway. New Yorkers in need of a restorative break from their hectic lifestyles might want to check it out.



Find your bliss in the middle of Manhattan as one of the city's rooftop pools that are open year-round.



'Spa Valley' offers a variety of therapeutic stone experiences in its elegant setting.



Hydrotherapy pools allow guests to refresh through water.



The atmosphere at Spa Castle Premier 52 is sure to leave its guests with a glowing golden aura.

CAFE

KULU: Opening New Elmhurst Location

Kulu Desserts was established by Jayson Chong in 2011 with the idea that desserts should be refreshing and unique. Conveniently located in Manhattan (Brooklyn), Flushing, and newly opened Elmhurst, KULU Desserts specializes in Asian fusion desserts, like Wang King style Sweet Soups, as well as ice cream, fresh fruit, pudding, and herbal jelly combinations. Owner Jayson also created KULU with the belief that desserts don't always have to be baked, frozen, or refrigerated. Their unique concepts and fresh ingredients make KULU a great place to get a dessert for without a ton of calories, sweeteners, or carbohydrates. In fact, KULU uses fresh ingredients for all of their dishes, including fresh fruits, nuts, legumes, tea leaves, and more.

Regular customers recommend the Duran Supreme (a black glutinous rice dessert with fresh Sage and Durian), Mango Pomegranate (jellymangoes with Pomegranate and Sage), and Strawberry Pomegranate with Sweet Salt (a kind of Chinese Mochi). Their newest location, which just opened in Elmhurst-Queens, is even offering an array of colorful breakfast options, too! With vibrant colors, open seating and standing room, and a case full of Japanese robot toys in the back, the atmosphere is very hip. Customers can even see visual 3D renderings of the desserts displayed in a case as they walk in. When plastic desserts make your mouth water, imagine how the real thing tastes!



The popular Mango Pomegranate dish, like many KULU dishes, features fresh, delicious ingredients.



KULU offers an array of pudding and milkshake flavors, such as Strawberry, Durian, Red Bean, and Brown Sugar.



For dessert lovers, KULU offers a fresh Coconut Pudding, served up in the very coolest 3D robot case.



The fresh, colorful KULU atmosphere is inviting, relaxing, and fun.

Spa Castle: 118 E. 57th St., 8th, Lexington & Park Ave | 8th Fl., New York, NY 10022
Tel: 212 750 8028 | www.spacastle52.com

KULU Desserts (Elmhurst location):
86-60 Broadway, Elmhurst, NY 11370 | www.kuludesserts.com

The Art of Sharing

Nabe Hot Pot & BBQ



Communal dining is becoming more popular than ever in New York, but sharing a large table and eating food from a big pot or pan in the center has been common in Asian countries for years. Here, we'll explore the beauty of nabe (hot pot) and Asian barbecue cultures and why you'll want to try these culinary experiences.

Personalize Your Nabe and BBQ

The most fun part of eating nabe and Asian barbecue is sharing not only the food in front of you, but also the moments of dining together and chatting. The food itself is a conversation piece. Also, you can choose what you would like to eat and eat as much as you want. There are several popular toppings and broth types in nabe, but basically there are no rules and no limits to the ingredients. If you are a vegetarian, you can create a vegetarian nabe with a vegetable-based broth. You can personalize your dining experience.

Although sharing food with many people makes communal dining attractive, there is a trend of "loner nabe", or enjoying nabe alone at home, in Japan. It's a result of the ultimate personalization of nabe, eating your favorite ingredients only at your pace. Small pots for each particular style are available.

Nabe and BBQ All Year Round

There is nothing more fulfilling during the colder months than eating piping hot nabe, but it can be a summer dish as well. Since you can pick your own toppings and broth, you can just put seasonal flavors into the pot. For summer, tomato nabe with a vegetable base soup might be good, while hearty nabe with a broth made from miso and sake (aka *doke*) warms you up in winter. In the U.S., barbecues are usually associated with outdoor cooking, but Asian barbecues are usually enjoyed indoors. So, barbecuing during winter makes perfect sense in Asian cultures.

Differences Between Japanese Yakiniku and Korean BBQ

Japanese yakiniku (grilled meat) and Korean barbecue look similar at first glance, but there are a couple of fundamental differences. Yakiniku uses lightly or non-marinated meat served with dipping sauce and condiments. The idea is to savor the taste of the meat itself with the help of a little seasoning. In Korean barbecue, however, the meat is deeply marinated, and you can enjoy the powerful flavor of the marinade blending perfectly with the umami of the meat. Usually people eat Japanese yakiniku as is, while the grilled meat of Korean barbecue is often wrapped in fresh greens.

Eat at Home or Dine Out

Nabe and Asian barbecue can be enjoyed both at home and in restaurants. In Asian countries, such households have its own original family recipe for nabe, and there are even regional variations to make the most of local produce. At home, nabe and barbecue are versatile—they can serve not only as special meals, but also work well as quick dinners using leftovers in the fridge.

If you don't have a pot for nabe and a tabletop stove at home, you can go to a restaurant. Restaurants



There are no rules for choosing nabe toppings, but following patterns (meat, seafood, and tofu) and vegetables is a good idea.



provide much more than just the right equipment, though. They offer variety and quality. Restaurants carry rare cuts of meat and fish that are only available to food professionals, seasonal vegetables sourced from exclusive providers, and well-selected

fresh ingredients. Plus, chefs can create quality broth, sauce, marinade, and condiments. Also, those experts know the best way to prepare the ingredients, so you can even ask the restaurant staff to cook your nabe or barbecue for you.

Tips for Nabe Success at Home

There are no rules for choosing nabe toppings, but these tips will make for a successful nabe experience.

TIP 1 Think about the order in which you put the ingredients into the hot pot for cooking. Some ingredients require more time to cook than others. Root vegetables always take more time than leafy greens, for example. In order to enjoy multiple ingredients at the same time, it's good to put them in according to the time they take to cook.

TIP 2 Scoop out *aka* (skate) that rises to the surface during cooking. Since *aka* will muddy your ingredients and broth, you can keep your nabe clean and tasty by removing *aka* every time it comes up.

TIP 3 Use the serving utensil for serving only, not for any other purpose, and don't put your own chopsticks or spoon in the nabe. Some people don't care about putting additional droplets into the nabe—this is called *jika-dashi* and is fairly common in Japan—but this is usually the case

when guests are all friends and family. In this case, *jika-dashi* is a proof of closeness. If you host a nabe party with people who have just met, however, you might want to use only the serving utensil in the hot pot.

TIP 4 Find a nabe master. Being good smoothers if you have someone takes leadership of when and what to throw in the pot or pan and suggest when it's ready. In Japan, the first person who plays that role is called "nabe jogyo."

TIP 5 Enjoy the savory soup after eating up all the ingredients. The soup left at the pot still has a lot of goodness from ingredients that you put in. Don't discard it. But appreciate it. Japanese people usually add cooked rice to make "nabe" *porridge* (See photo at right) or udon noodles (sometimes ramen too).



Afterward, use the soup after finishing nabe and drink for a couple of minutes.



Adjust flavor by adding more seasoning and pour over a beaten egg.



Hot and the egg is cooked and served.

Nabe Hot Pot and BBQ Restaurants You Should Dive into!

Jingisukan BBQ

AZASU

40 Canal St. (17th Ave & Garden St.), New York, NY 10002
Tel: 212-977-8888 | www.azasu.com
Mon-Thurs 5-11 pm, Fri & Sat 6 pm-1 am



Lower East Side's vibrant cakyo, AZASU, is the only place in New York City where you can enjoy Chanko-nabe Hot Pot, a samo wrestler's staple dish. They have just introduced another exciting menu, Jingisukan BBQ, for the first time in the city. Named after Genghis Khan, a legendary general from Mongolia, it traditionally features lamb, but AZASU's version also includes the choice of pork or beef kobe. Customers have a chance to enjoy rare meats such as fat inn steak and miso marinated hamon (looph agni), whose availability varies daily, as well as house-made items, including hamburger steak and thick-cut lasoon and egg. They grill your choice of meat for you and serve it sizzling hot on an iron skillet. Don't forget to pair an AZASU original shochu or whiskey-base Highball with the Jingisukan BBQ.



With a bowl of ingredients, Chanko-nabe Hot Pot is a delicious and incredibly satisfying, hearty and ultimately energizing.



Take a picture while dining at AZASU and check in to Like AZASU on Facebook, and get a **FREE** glass of house-made Shochu Cocktails/Vignettes/choice of drinks (one-for-one).

Seasonal Prix Fixe Course

Yakimoku Fetejo

30 W. 13th St. (bet. 5th & 6th Ave.), New York, NY 10003
Tel: 212-685-0205 | www.yakimoku-fetejo.com
Mon-Sat 12:00pm, Fri-Sat 5-11 pm



Yakimoku Fetejo is offering Seasonal Prix Fixe Course for \$70, \$100 and \$150. The \$100 course comes with 6 different appetizers including Nagay Special Toro Sashimi. For the main course, thickly sliced tongue, skirt steak and fillet as well as their signature Hamachi Kaki and 20-second Beef are served for tabletop grilling. The lineup of dishes are sure to satisfy your palate and your stomach.



Three line of appetizers, as plated below, while every special will go perfectly in between table.



Whatsapp check-in using Facebook, please/coupon reduction of the day on the house. The offer is valid during the weekend March.

Yakimiku Brunch

Yakimiku West

27 E. 2nd St., (bet. 2nd & 3rd Ave.) New York, NY 10003
Tel.: 212 679-0208 | www.yakimikwest.com
Mon-Thu, 5-11 pm Fri & Sat 5pm-2am Sun, 5-10 pm



Yakimiku West is a Japanese style BBQ restaurant located in the East Village. While it's fun to have BBQ for dinner, their brunch on weekends from 3 pm to 6 pm offers a more relaxed dining experience. Short Rib is served along with rice, salad & miso soup and dessert for a mere \$9.95. Season your meat lightly as the Japanese do and enjoy the true flavor of premium meat.



Yakimiku West is a traditional restaurant where you can take your choice off the menu and enjoy the best of Japanese culture.



Vegetables Basil Nabe

Detoya Greenwich Village

41 E. 11th St. (bet. University Pl. & Broadway) | Tel.: 212-475-4008
Mon-Fri 11:30 am-2:30 pm, 5:30-10:30 pm
Sat & Sun 11:30 am-2 pm 5:30-10:30 pm



Vegetables Basil Nabe (\$20) is a unique hot pot dish served only at Detoya Greenwich Village. It is loaded with real nutrition from broth, vegetables and chicken meatballs that are soft and juicy. The broth is flavored with basil sauce, and this unusual combination of broth and basil sauce is surprisingly delicious. Other hot pots are also available as a set menu for \$25 during lunch hours.



The Greenwich Village location is a small, cozy space with a warm atmosphere. The menu is simple and focuses on traditional Japanese dishes.



Lobster Hotpot

Pommes So den

241 E. 4th St. (bet. 2nd & 3rd Ave.), New York, NY 10003
Tel.: 212 680-6888/6887
Mon-Sun 11:30 am-10 pm



Lobster Hotpot (\$78) is a seasonal dish only available until the end of March. It serves 2 to 4 people and includes many different kinds of vegetables along with a smorgasbord of fresh seafood like lobsters, clams and shrimps, which are cooked in chicken bone broth. The rich essence of the seafood in the broth enhances the flavor of the vegetables. Enjoy it with everyone at the table.



They are PTO, so be sure to enjoy your favorite food.



The best beef for ShabuShabu & Sukiyaki



Kagoshima Beef grade A4 has received rigorous care from fattening to processing, and then has been handpicked by seasoned connoisseurs. Enjoy the rich and tasty flavor of Kagoshima Beef!

"Kagoshima Beef Strip Loin Thinly Sliced" is now available at KATAGIRI.

KATAGIRI
224 E. 59th Street (at 3rd & 3rd Ave.)
212-755-3555 www.katagiri.com
Open 7 days 10am-8pm

Aomori Fair

in New York
@ **SUNRISE MART**

3/11
(Fri)

3/13
(Sun)

Aomori Prefecture is the northernmost prefecture on the main island of Japan surrounded by three bodies of water and pristine natural beauty.

During this event you can enjoy black garlic, ice cream, full apple juice, premium yogurt, salted fish, caramelized rice cracker, and much more at **SUNRISE MART** in NYC.

Enjoy tasting and demonstrations!
3/11 3/12 3/13
Sushi, Ramen, Gyoza



SUNRISE MART

BAKERS VILLAGE
4 Bayview St, 2nd Floor
New York, NY 10013

SOHO
484 Broadway St
New York, NY 10013

MIDTOWN
12 East 47th St
New York, NY 10017

Enjoy Hot Pot with kikkoman.



Ponzu

Something new and exciting for citrus lovers. Ponzu, citrus flavor enhancing benefits all both citrus and soy sauce in one convenient sauce. Ponzu. It has the perfect balance of salty, sweet and tangy.

Roasted Sesame Sauce & Dressing

Delicious dipping sauce for shabu-shabu hot pot, tofu, beef and pork as well as for a tasty dressing for salads, cooked vegetables and noodles.

kikkoman.
enhancing your life



Beef Shabu Shabu

(INGREDIENTS) (Serves 2-3)

- ☐ 1-2 lb thinly sliced beef (not for shabu shabu)
- ☐ 1/4 whole cabbage
- ☐ 1 bunch scallions
- ☐ 4-6 shishito mushrooms
- ☐ 3-5 slices carrot, cut into flower shape
- ☐ 7 cups water
- ☐ 6 inch long dried kombu kelp (optional)

(FOR DIPPING SAUCE)

- ☐ Kikkoman Ponzu
- ☐ Kikkoman Roasted Sesame Sauce
- ☐ Grated ginger
- ☐ Finely chopped scallion
- ☐ Grated daikon radish

(INSTRUCTIONS)

1. Soak the kombu kelp in a pot filled with cold water for about 30 minutes.
2. Wash the napa cabbage and cut them into bite size pieces.
3. Slice scallions diagonally.
4. Place thinly sliced beef one by one, so it's easy to pick up by chopsticks for cooking.
5. Prepare the dipping sauce by adding some grated ginger, finely chopped scallions and grated daikon radish to ponzu, and chopped scallions and ginger to sesame sauce.
6. Bring the pot of water to a gentle simmer and take out the kombu kelp.
7. Pick up beef by chopsticks and let it swim in the simmering water for a few seconds. Do not over cook.
8. Dip the cooked beef into either ponzu, sesame or sesame sauce mixture and eat immediately.
9. After cooking few beef slices, add vegetables to the pot.
10. When they're cooked, dip them to either ponzu or sesame sauce and enjoy.
11. When foam forms on the surface while cooking beef and vegetables, skim it using a ladle.
12. When beef and vegetables are all gone, you can add either cooked rice or noodles to enjoy the broth that's packed with all the goodness from the cooked ingredients!

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"WA"

Cooking

"Wa" means "harmony" and "balance" in Japanese and also signifies "Japan." In this cooking corner, **Chopsticks NY** introduces Japanese dishes that are harmonious with our everyday life in the U.S. Each month we share one recipe alternating between Sweets, Savory and Fusion categories. In the month of March, we feature clam soup, a standard treat in Hinamatsuri (Girls' Day) festival on March 3rd.



Recipe courtesy
Maki Sato
JapaneseSavoryTastes.com
Cooking table: nylpage.com

Savory

Clam Soup with Broccoli Rabe



Ushio-jiru, clear soup with seafood-based dashi broth, has been enjoyed in Japan for centuries. A variety of toppings are used for the soup dish, but clam soup with manchurian green (broccoli rabe) is particularly popular on Hinamatsuri (Girls' Day).

Ingredients (Serves 2)

- 4 clams (small, use cherrystone clams)
- 2 cups water
- 3-inch long kombu kelp
- 6 cups of broccoli rabe
- 2 thin slices of ginger, julienned
- 1 tsp light soy sauce (if you don't have light soy sauce, use regular soy sauce)
- Salt to taste

Directions

1. Soak kombu kelp in 2 cups of water and let it sit for at least 1 hour.
2. Wash clams under cold water using brush.
3. Cook broccoli rabe tip in boiling water for 1 minute and quickly put them in ice bath to cool. Drain well and set them aside.
4. In a small pot, pour in kombu soaked water along with kombu and add clams.
5. Bring it to a boil, and then take out the kombu.
6. When white foam starts coming up on surface, skim them as much as possible using ladle to keep the soup clear.
7. As soon as a shell opens, remove it from the pot and set it aside. (Don't wait for all shells to open.)
8. Season the soup with light soy sauce and taste. Add salt if necessary.
9. Place clams and broccoli rabe in an individual bowl and pour in soup.
10. Garnish with julienned ginger and serve while hot.

TIP

As clams release their own salty flavor into the soup, be sure to taste before you add salt.



Japanese Restaurant Review

Autre Kyo Ya
Benemon
New York Sushi Ko

Listings
Japanese Restaurant

Autre Kyo Ya

10 Sepulchre St., 2nd, 3rd & 4th Floors | New York, NY 10022
 TEL: 312.586-0494 | www.autreyoya.com
 Mon-Sat: 5:30 pm-late night

NEW!

Opened in the beginning of December 2015 as a sister restaurant to the Michelin-starred Kyo Ya, Autre Kyo Ya features original French-Japanese fusion cuisine that blends French technique with Japanese flavors. Chef Shuji Funakawa, who mastered French culinary techniques while training and working in France, and Sous Chef Takashi Iguchi, formerly of Kajitsu, are both Kyo Ya alumni. Their specialties are reflected in each dish on the menu at Autre Kyo Ya, showcasing utterly delicious creations that are sure to surprise and delight guests. Among Autre Kyo Ya's signature dishes is the **House Smoked Octopus**, a warm appetizer of charcoal-grilled octopus, celery root purée, and smoked soy sauce. The tender, savory octopus pairs well with the light celery root purée. Another popular choice is the **Sea Urchin Consommé Gelée**, a chilled appetizer that includes uni, an insect-style egg, ao-puro amaro, beef consommé gelée, and parmesan purée. The uni and the gelée form a sumptuous uni-parmesan combination when tasted together, yet the dish is clean and surprisingly herbaceous. Autre Kyo Ya's Aka-age and Yuzu entree is also a terrific vegetarian option. A full selection of wine, sake, and signature cocktails is available. Beginning in March, guests can try a special Chef's Causse that features highlights from the menu.



Autre Kyo Ya's house-smoked octopus includes a smoked soy sauce that incorporates butter for a hint of richness. Inset: sea urchin. Top right: the Sea Urchin Consommé Gelée at a customer's table.



The **House Smoked Octopus** is a French-Japanese cocktail featuring house Japanese pickles (shoyu) and yuzu just north of middle. Served in a balanced and warming.



A very elegant dinner makes guests feel like they're enjoying the best of French and Japanese cuisine.

3 Best Sellers

- **Sea Urchin Consommé Gelée**
- **House Smoked Octopus**
- **Aka-age & Yuzu**

\$14
 \$14
 \$23

Benemon

196 E. 4th St. (near 1st & 2nd Aves.) New York, NY 10002
 Tel: 773-474-0000 | www.benemon.com
 Tue-Thurs 5-11pm, Fri-Sat 5pm-Midnight

NEW!



East Village Japanese restaurants abound and the newest star is Benemon, offering comfort food and classics with a modern twist. Old-school Dyke Don is found alongside misangai dishes such as Italian-inspired *Falermese Pizzoccon*, *Salty Pork Belly*, smoked with mesquite and served in a spicy, black kani sauce with a shishito pepper, illustrates the restaurant's fusion skills. Savory vegetables consisting of chilled french ground beans, roasted bell peppers, shishito mushrooms, sweet beans and ground shishito dressing, is a great balance to the meat's meat focus. All items are made with a vegetable based miso and cooked over a long period of time. Japanese comfort food would be incomplete without fried chicken (*kara-age*), and Benemon doesn't disappoint. The restaurant has a daily Happy Hour deal from 5-8pm where you can get beer and a small portion of *kara-age* for only \$2. Benemon prides itself on extending its fusion concept to its taps, which showcase Japanese standards as well as American craft beer. Benemon is an ideal spot for diners who want to try authentic Japanese food, as well as dishes born from the addition of new elements to traditional cuisine.



Tokoro Don-Don is a Japanese chicken, shishito mushrooms, shishito noodles and onions simmered in a sweet soy sauce and topped with an organic shiso. Also with kimchi.



Benemon's original Buttermilk spiced pork belly and a spicy hot wine.

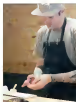
New York Sushi Ko

81 Cortez St. (Hempden St. Entrance) New York, NY 10002
 Tel: 917-434-8857 | www.newyorksushiko.com
 Lunch: Tue-Fri 11am, Dinner: Tue-Sat 5:30pm-Dinner late hours. Call restaurant for reservations.

"We do this everywhere in the world," promises Chef John Daley of his signature rice, a big draw at his popular Lower East Side restaurant. Composed of these different grains, New York Sushi Ko rice is cooked, then pickled, then "steamed back to life in bamboo baskets." The result is Daley's way of giving diners the most authentically traditional sushi ingredient: warm, highly digestible, pickled rice. Daley is equally creative with seafood. Uta is wok-smoked with Japanese walnut and American applewood, then served with tempered fuku liver skate. Kinnelme (fried snapper) has been seared to a crisp and fish that's half raw and half-cooked, delivering three distinctly different taste sensations in one malleable bite. An exotic kuyachi roll gets its crisp texture from shiso, enjoga, and nagi. These are a few of the stars at New York Sushi Ko, which recently had a grand reopening. "Now we offer just sushi omakase," the chef explains, "with 13 to 20 pieces of sushi: plus two or three pieces of a sushi roll." The tatters of Daley don't look like most sushi chefs. He rather looks like a punk rocker and enjoys "making one thing look like another thing," as in "New York Sushi Faux," which substitutes rice with white stone ribs (raw sweet shrimp), and runs with kingyo (smoked gizzard). Even more stup pickles a surprise here, with Japanese mountain yam cubed to look like toki.



Catch of the day: sea bream. Seared fish topped with fresh wasabi, drizzle with soy sauce and served kani-on (red miso).



Chef John Daley at work behind the bar at New York Sushi Ko. Working into the wee hours with Benemon's work on the sushi in the kitchen.



The only 100-seat space in the neighborhood.

3 Best Sellers

- Smoked Uta
- New York Sushi Faux
- Cured Fuku (Kinnelme) with Live Seaweed

*New York Sushi Ko carries Benemon's Sake and other items for sale.

3 Best Sellers

- Uta-Yuzu Don
- Salty Pork Belly
- Crispy Baked Salmon

\$18
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A Gem in Flushing Aims for Culinary Heights

There is a pervasive belief among diners that the only thing that a superior sushi or sashimi meal requires is the freshest possible fish. While it is certainly an essential element, sometimes even the best of fish can be further elevated by a talented chef who not only enhances the ingredients, but thinks of ways to push the combinations further for the enjoyment of diners. At **Ikki Modern Japanese Cuisine** in Flushing, True World Foods gets to support a budding master with its world-class products.

Ikki's chef, Andy Li, has only been making sushi in the U.S. for an astonishingly short amount of time. After a year at notable sushi meastery, Neta and another at the more recently lauded destination, Sushi Nakazawa, he picked up a stockpile of skills and ideas that he executes in a way that indicates true talent. Just watching him handle the fish, from slicing to composing, is a delight, and the outcome of his techniques is equally delicious. Every single piece delivers something for the diner not only to savor and fill their bellies with, but also think about and appreciate long after the meal.

Without any doubt, the 2-hour, 18-course omakase is the name of the game at Ikki. And the obvious place to enjoy it – the 10 seat sushi bar – is every bit a modern sushi master's domain, where dishes explore both traditional and innovative approaches. The restaurant knows how important it is to pay attention to customers, read their body language, listen to him or her, and make dishes that are essentially a conversation between the chef and diner. And for diners, it's an experience that is not solely about eating good sushi; it's about learning how to eat exceptionally through constant communication.

"My goal is to make everyone happy. The people who eat here, the people who work here," said Chef Li. "And to do that, I have to be at my best, and be serving the best. This is what I get from True World Foods. I am always impressed by the quality, and they always come through. Ever since I started working in sushi restaurants, I always knew about the reputation of True World Foods, and now they supply 70% of everything that I serve here."

Every fish is elevated to the status of work of art for the senses. The uni from Hokkaido, paired with foie gras and king mushroom, harmonizes beautifully with every chew. Bluefin toro sashimi from Spain fills the mouth with rich umami flavors. Sweet shrimp, topped with caviar and adorned with edible gold flakes, dances on the tongue with arguably the best flavors of the sea. The live scallop, which was still moving seconds before being prepared, was paired with sliced black truffle and microgreens – the kind of earthy balance that redefines the idea of surf and turf. Last but not least, sushi aficionados will immediately appreciate the way he handles the rice, which offers the kind of texture and flavor that reminds you of how important every grain is to sushi.

Flushing is no stranger to excellent restaurants, but Ikki Modern Japanese Cuisine is a unique addition to the neighborhood, with its ambitious menu and elegant execution throughout every aspect of its design. No matter where you live in New York City, this restaurant is definitely worth the trip.

The live scallop with black truffle is destined to become legendary. The plump, smooth scallop is the perfect contrast to the fish truffle.



Please savor the three nigiri – everyone agrees which is what? Tuna, Cucumber, Nori-maki. Use and Enjoy!



Chef Li may look young, but he already has the kind of talent that people spend years to develop.



Get a Piece of the Omakase at Ikki in NO BROUKE NOT TO TRY.



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West Village	Dope Restaurant*
110 W. 4th St. (bet 5th & 6th Ave.)	212-475-4188
West Village	EN Japanese Broomie
110 W. 4th St. (bet 5th & 6th Ave.)	212-475-4188
West Village	Hokuto Tenba*
110 W. 4th St. (bet 5th & 6th Ave.)	212-475-4188

West Village	GO! GO! CURRY*
110 W. 4th St. (bet 5th & 6th Ave.)	212-475-4188
West Village	Misaki*
110 W. 4th St. (bet 5th & 6th Ave.)	212-475-4188
West Village	Myapa
110 W. 4th St. (bet 5th & 6th Ave.)	212-475-4188
West Village	Ramen Takumi*
110 W. 4th St. (bet 5th & 6th Ave.)	212-475-4188
West Village	Ramen To West 3rd
110 W. 4th St. (bet 5th & 6th Ave.)	212-475-4188
West Village	Ramen To West 4th
110 W. 4th St. (bet 5th & 6th Ave.)	212-475-4188
West Village	Rockwell*
110 W. 4th St. (bet 5th & 6th Ave.)	212-475-4188
West Village	Selma
110 W. 4th St. (bet 5th & 6th Ave.)	212-475-4188
West Village	Suave Restaurant*
110 W. 4th St. (bet 5th & 6th Ave.)	212-475-4188
West Village	Tanaka Sushi
110 W. 4th St. (bet 5th & 6th Ave.)	212-475-4188
West Village	Umeshi Shoppe*
110 W. 4th St. (bet 5th & 6th Ave.)	212-475-4188

HAPPY HOUR!

Appetizers & Alcohol Half Price
Mon-Fri 4:30pm-6:30pm

Free Extra Noodles
Fri 12am-1am

Lunch
Mon-Fri 11:30am-4:30pm
Sat 12-1pm

Dinner
Mon-Fri 4:30-11pm
Thurs 4:30pm-1am
Fri-Sat 4:30pm-1am
Sun & Sun 4-11pm

Spicy Pork

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Served with hot or cold miso soup, unagi appetizer, and bread. 20 mins per day.

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212-637-0350

Full portions available 12:00pm-1:00pm

Menu
Mon-Fri 11:30-2:30
Thurs 11:30-1am
Fri-Sat 11:30-1am
Sun 11:30-1am

East Village

East Village **Bonze Bore**
111 1st Ave. (bet. 1st & 2nd St.)
212-477-7000

East Village **BONZE ST**
111 1st Ave. (bet. 1st & 2nd St.)
212-477-7000

East Village **Chin-A**
111 1st Ave. (bet. 1st & 2nd St.)
212-477-7000

East Village **Chin-A**
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East Village **Chin-A**
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East Village **Hi-Culter**
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Tobacco	WONG	
180 Hudson St. 4th Fl. 5th & 6th St.	212-214-0323	\$250-350 L
Tobacco	WONG NEXT DOOR	
180 Hudson St. 4th Fl. 5th & 6th St.	212-214-0323	\$250-350 L
Tobacco	WONG	
180 Hudson St. 4th Fl. 5th & 6th St.	212-214-0323	\$250-350 L
Tobacco	WONG	
180 Hudson St. 4th Fl. 5th & 6th St.	212-214-0323	\$250-350 L
Tobacco	WONG	
180 Hudson St. 4th Fl. 5th & 6th St.	212-214-0323	\$250-350 L
Tobacco	WONG	
180 Hudson St. 4th Fl. 5th & 6th St.	212-214-0323	\$250-350 L

Soho

Soho	Blue Ribbon Sushi	
111 Hudson St. 3rd Fl. 5th & 6th St.	212-214-0323	\$250-350 L
Soho	Brooklyn	
25 Hudson St. 2nd Fl. 5th & 6th St.	212-214-0323	\$250-350 L
Soho	Brooklyn	
25 Hudson St. 2nd Fl. 5th & 6th St.	212-214-0323	\$250-350 L
Soho	Brooklyn	
25 Hudson St. 2nd Fl. 5th & 6th St.	212-214-0323	\$250-350 L
Soho	Brooklyn	
25 Hudson St. 2nd Fl. 5th & 6th St.	212-214-0323	\$250-350 L
Soho	Brooklyn	
25 Hudson St. 2nd Fl. 5th & 6th St.	212-214-0323	\$250-350 L

Brooklyn

Brooklyn	1st St	
111 Hudson St. 3rd Fl. 5th & 6th St.	212-214-0323	\$250-350 L
Brooklyn	Ami Sushi*	
180 Hudson St. 4th Fl. 5th & 6th St.	212-214-0323	\$250-350 L
Brooklyn	Bora	
25 Hudson St. 2nd Fl. 5th & 6th St.	212-214-0323	\$250-350 L
Brooklyn	Genito*	
180 Hudson St. 4th Fl. 5th & 6th St.	212-214-0323	\$250-350 L
Brooklyn	Hiro Japanese Restaurant	
180 Hudson St. 4th Fl. 5th & 6th St.	212-214-0323	\$250-350 L
Brooklyn	IZAKAYA de SMITH	
180 Hudson St. 4th Fl. 5th & 6th St.	212-214-0323	\$250-350 L
Brooklyn	Mira	
180 Hudson St. 4th Fl. 5th & 6th St.	212-214-0323	\$250-350 L
Brooklyn	Norito Ramen	
180 Hudson St. 4th Fl. 5th & 6th St.	212-214-0323	\$250-350 L

Brooklyn	Oniway	
180 Hudson St. 4th Fl. 5th & 6th St.	212-214-0323	\$250-350 L
Brooklyn	OZU	
180 Hudson St. 4th Fl. 5th & 6th St.	212-214-0323	\$250-350 L
Brooklyn	Ramen Sengaya*	
180 Hudson St. 4th Fl. 5th & 6th St.	212-214-0323	\$250-350 L
Brooklyn	Ramen Yakuza*	
180 Hudson St. 4th Fl. 5th & 6th St.	212-214-0323	\$250-350 L
Brooklyn	SALT + CHARCOAL	
180 Hudson St. 4th Fl. 5th & 6th St.	212-214-0323	\$250-350 L
Brooklyn	Somera: Pops	
180 Hudson St. 4th Fl. 5th & 6th St.	212-214-0323	\$250-350 L

Queens

Queens	Aji Japanese Cuisine	
180 Hudson St. 4th Fl. 5th & 6th St.	212-214-0323	\$250-350 L
Queens	Ajisan Ramen*	
180 Hudson St. 4th Fl. 5th & 6th St.	212-214-0323	\$250-350 L
Queens	ANYOSHI*	
180 Hudson St. 4th Fl. 5th & 6th St.	212-214-0323	\$250-350 L
Queens	Ginseng*	
180 Hudson St. 4th Fl. 5th & 6th St.	212-214-0323	\$250-350 L
Queens	gonosoba*	
180 Hudson St. 4th Fl. 5th & 6th St.	212-214-0323	\$250-350 L
Queens	Hachi Ramen & Izakaya*	
180 Hudson St. 4th Fl. 5th & 6th St.	212-214-0323	\$250-350 L

Queens	Hiro Japanese Restaurant*	
180 Hudson St. 4th Fl. 5th & 6th St.	212-214-0323	\$250-350 L
Queens	Hiro Japanese Restaurant*	
180 Hudson St. 4th Fl. 5th & 6th St.	212-214-0323	\$250-350 L
Queens	KATSUNO*	
180 Hudson St. 4th Fl. 5th & 6th St.	212-214-0323	\$250-350 L
Queens	Kawa Japanese Restaurant	
180 Hudson St. 4th Fl. 5th & 6th St.	212-214-0323	\$250-350 L
Queens	Kyoto Sushi	
180 Hudson St. 4th Fl. 5th & 6th St.	212-214-0323	\$250-350 L
Queens	LIUN WU'S CHINA*	
180 Hudson St. 4th Fl. 5th & 6th St.	212-214-0323	\$250-350 L
Queens	Misaki Sushi*	
180 Hudson St. 4th Fl. 5th & 6th St.	212-214-0323	\$250-350 L
Queens	On the Sushi	
180 Hudson St. 4th Fl. 5th & 6th St.	212-214-0323	\$250-350 L

Queens	Pink Pearl*	
180 Hudson St. 4th Fl. 5th & 6th St.	212-214-0323	\$250-350 L
Queens	Ramen Shokyo*	
180 Hudson St. 4th Fl. 5th & 6th St.	212-214-0323	\$250-350 L
Queens	Shiro of Japan Aizu Ph.	
180 Hudson St. 4th Fl. 5th & 6th St.	212-214-0323	\$250-350 L
Queens	Suki Tera Shabu*	
180 Hudson St. 4th Fl. 5th & 6th St.	212-214-0323	\$250-350 L
Queens	SUSHI ISLAND*	
180 Hudson St. 4th Fl. 5th & 6th St.	212-214-0323	\$250-350 L
Queens	Sushi Yaku*	
180 Hudson St. 4th Fl. 5th & 6th St.	212-214-0323	\$250-350 L
Queens	Takosushi*	
180 Hudson St. 4th Fl. 5th & 6th St.	212-214-0323	\$250-350 L
Queens	Tenki Sushi*	
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Helltown East Yuya Tea Garden

81 Cooper St. (bet. 7th & 8th Sts.)
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Helltown East Queen's Star

81 Cooper St. (bet. 7th & 8th Sts.)
212-419-2171

Helltown East Kula Desserts

81 Cooper St. (bet. 7th & 8th Sts.)
212-419-2171

Helltown East Sweet Dynasty

81 Cooper St. (bet. 7th & 8th Sts.)
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Helltown East Yuya Tea Garden

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Helltown East Kula Desserts

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Helltown East Cafe KM SWEETS

81 Cooper St. (bet. 7th & 8th Sts.)
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Helltown East Missomoto Kitchen

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Helltown East Peninsula

81 Cooper St. (bet. 7th & 8th Sts.)
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Helltown East Ruzabaz, Inc.

81 Cooper St. (bet. 7th & 8th Sts.)
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Helltown East Kula Desserts

81 Cooper St. (bet. 7th & 8th Sts.)
212-419-2171

Helltown East Yuya Tea Garden

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Helltown East Queen's Star

81 Cooper St. (bet. 7th & 8th Sts.)
212-419-2171

Helltown East Kula Desserts

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Helltown East Japan 36

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Helltown East Karaoke Duet 80

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Helltown East Chosen Karaoke

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Helltown East Gagapi Karaoke

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Helltown East Grammy Karaoke

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Helltown East Karaoke Duet 25

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Helltown East More Karaoke Lounge

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Helltown East NK

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Helltown East Radio Star Karaoke

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Helltown East Music Story

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Helltown East Apple Restaurant

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Helltown East Planet Rock

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Helltown East Secreted & Suced

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East Village Sing Sing (Live A*)

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Lower Midt: Karaoke Lounge

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Menya Saindaime

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Sun-Thur 11:00am-9:00pm Fri-Sat 11:00am-9:30pm

KAWAII in New York

By Julia Sokol

Cuteness in Full Bloom!

As Spring approaches, everyone anticipates the arrival of daisies back on trees. If only we could spend more time outdoors! Happily, there are many cute plants that bring nature indoors. They're compact enough to fit into the smallest apartment, and so low-maintenance that you don't need a green thumb to keep them thriving. Just add water and TLC!



Ar Bunsai, an Air Bonsai Garden. (credit) Spotted Style. In theory, the upside to a compact Japanese tradition, look off with a little Kawaii for everyone.

The centuries-old tradition of bonsai — miniature tree cultivation — gets a thoroughly modern makeover with Air Bonsai, a tiny tree rooted in a ball of soil that floats several inches above what looks like a traditional planter, but is actually a magnetized “energy base.” A cool Kickstarter campaign to raise crowdfunding ended on March 1 and has exceeded its goal, but if you missed it, don't worry — everyone will be able to buy an Air Bonsai soon enough! Learn more about availability and pricing at the website of Air Bonsai's home base in Kyushu: www.kickstarter.com/projects/2768000389/air-bonsai-aerobic-soil-free-little-tree

Do you crave a landscaped garden, but lack the outdoor space? Bring the outside in with a Hanging Globe Terrarium from the Brooklyn Botanic Garden. These air plants require minimal care and upkeep — they gather all their nutrients from the air, so they don't need any soil. And you get to choose the decorative element! Options include natural bark and three shades of Reindeer Moss. If there's no space in your place to bring the terrarium, its flat-bottomed container lets you set it on a desk, table, shelf, or windowsill. globe.org, \$79.99

Ever heard of plantable cards? A cute concept by a company called Love Grows, these delightful greetings are black made, as you can write your own message — and they come with easy instructions on how to grow the seeds embedded in this recycled paper. Plant one and you'll be rewarded with a selection from among the following fetching flora: Five Spot, Candytuft, Baby Blue Eyes, Scarlet Rose, Siberian Wallflower, Zinnia, Sweet William Pink, Corn Poppy, Tall Spurred Snapdragons, Crisp White Daisy, Gloriosa Daisy and Black-Eyed Susan. mfglo.org, \$7



Julia Sokol Author and travel writer Julia Sokol has covered culture and style for The New York Times, New York Post, and other major outlets. Follow her on Instagram @theforwardchange for more.

CARNEGIE HALL
Weill Music Institute

Free!



NEIGHBORHOOD CONCERT

Soh Daiko

Saturday, March 19 at 3 PM

With hard-driving rhythms, dynamic choreography, and high-energy performances, Japanese drumming collective Soh Daiko takes traditional taiko music into the 21st century.

LaGuardia Performing Arts Center

LaGuardia Community College | Matine Theatre
31-10 Thomson Avenue | Queens

(Alternate entrance at Building B on 47th Avenue
and Van Dam Street)

RSVP required: laguardiapperformingarts.org
718-482-5851

Facebook Twitter YouTube Instagram | Bus: M42, G52, G55, Q46

Public support for Neighborhood Concerts is provided by
Council Member Helen Rosenthal

Celebrating **40** YEARS of
free concerts in all five boroughs!
carnegiehall.org/NeighborhoodConcerts
#ChinMyHood



Shop Guide

The following is a list of shops where you can buy Japanese goods, artwork and art.

- Shops available in www.chapstickny.com
- Checkmarks (✓) available to pick up

FASHION

Upper East	Girl's Kite*	Outing
401 Columbus Ave. (at 79th & 80th St.)		
212-697-1473		
Upper East	R by Virgo	Outing
150 York Ave. (at Marston St.)		
212-697-9495		
Upper East	Seige Accessories	Accessories
210 Madison Ave. (at 75th St.)		
646-694-9395		
Midtown East	Miki House	Outing
1609 Avenue C (at Roosevelt Ave.)		
Midtown East	Zero Redefining	Accessories
300 Madison Ave. (at 62nd St.)		
646-694-9395		
Chelsea	Snacks New York	Outing
80 Madison Ave. (at 29th St.)		
212-697-3729		
West Village	Yamak	Outing
301 W 4th St. (at Greenwich St.)		
212-697-0535		
East Village	AKOSKY	Outing
401 E 10th St. (at E 10th St.)		
212-697-8754		
East Village	Local Crafting	Outing
201 E 10th St. (at E 10th St.)		
212-697-8754		
East Village	Peterson Field*	Outing
300 Avenue C (at Marston St.)		
212-697-6225		
East Village	Toko 1*	Outing
101 E 10th St. (at E 10th St.)		
212-697-4495		
East Village	Tokyo Joe	Outing
301 E 10th St. (at E 10th St.)		
212-697-4495		
Chelsea	Girl's Kite Tokyo	Outing
85 Greenwich St. (at Marston St.)		
212-697-0535		
Chelsea	Miki House	Outing
150 York Ave. (at Marston St.)		
212-697-9495		
Chelsea	Auth	Accessories
750 Broadway (at Marston St.)		
212-697-1473		
Chelsea	Snacks New York*	Outing
210 Madison Ave. (at 75th St.)		
212-697-3729		
Chelsea	Surge Ink	Accessories
840 Avenue C (at Marston St.)		
646-694-9395		
Chelsea	Snacks New York*	Outing
150 York Ave. (at Marston St.)		
212-697-9495		
Chelsea	Miki House	Outing
150 York Ave. (at Marston St.)		
212-697-9495		

New Jersey	UNIKO	Outing
1000 Route 1, Paramus, NJ 07652		
212-697-1473		

J-POP CULTURE

Upper East	Thina Gift Shop	
210 York Ave. (at Marston St.) 646-697-9495		Toy
Midtown West	Book Off	
401 York Ave. (at 10th St.) 212-697-4495		Books
Midtown West	Kinokuniya Bookstore	
101 York Ave. (at 10th St.) 212-697-4495		Books
Midtown West	Midnight USA	
201 York Ave. (at 10th St.) 212-697-4495		Video Books
Midtown West	Mulberry Comics*	
201 York Ave. (at 10th St.) 212-697-4495		Manga
Midtown West	YU Comics Books*	
201 York Ave. (at 10th St.) 212-697-4495		Manga
Midtown West	Mulberry Comics*	
201 York Ave. (at 10th St.) 212-697-4495		Manga
Chelsea	Graphic Comics	
101 York Ave. (at 10th St.) 212-697-4495		Manga
Chelsea	Image Anime*	
201 York Ave. (at 10th St.) 212-697-4495		Accessories
West Village	AC Green	
101 York Ave. (at 10th St.) 212-697-4495		J Books
East Village	St. Marks Comics	
101 York Ave. (at 10th St.) 212-697-4495		Manga
East Village	Savage Hunt	
401 York Ave. (at 10th St.) 212-697-4495		Video Books
East Village	Toy Tokyo*	
101 York Ave. (at 10th St.) 212-697-4495		Toy
East Village	Video Games New York*	
201 York Ave. (at 10th St.) 212-697-4495		J Books
Chelsea	Savage Hunt & Tokyo	
401 York Ave. (at 10th St.) 212-697-4495		Video Books
Chelsea	Anime Castle*	
201 York Ave. (at 10th St.) 212-697-4495		Accessories
Long Island	Anime Castle	
70 Bayview Ave. Syosset NY 11791 516-336-0000		Accessories
New Jersey	Goodman Planet*	
Set 200 St. Lawrenceville, NJ 07068 201-366-0000		Toy
TRADITIONAL		
Midtown West	Kinokuniya New York	
101 York Ave. (at 10th St.) 212-697-4495		Books
Midtown West	Mametto Kinokuniya*	
300 Madison Ave. Set 1010 212-697-4495		Books

TRADITIONAL

Midtown West	Kinokuniya Bookstore	Books
101 York Ave. (at 10th St.)		
212-697-4495		
Midtown West	Mulberry Comics*	Accessories
201 York Ave. (at 10th St.)		
212-697-4495		

Chelsea	KYOTONA*	Accessories
201 York Ave. (at 10th St.)		
212-697-4495		
East Village	Meloni	Accessories
101 York Ave. (at 10th St.)		
212-697-4495		
Chelsea	Kinokuniya Bookstore	Books
101 York Ave. (at 10th St.)		
212-697-4495		
Chelsea	Jeff Design*	Accessories
101 York Ave. (at 10th St.)		
212-697-4495		
New Jersey	Miki House	Outing
150 York Ave. (at Marston St.)		
212-697-9495		
Japan	Japan Square	Accessories
101 York Ave. (at 10th St.)		
212-697-4495		
Chelsea	J-Life International, Inc.	Accessories
101 York Ave. (at 10th St.)		
212-697-4495		
Chelsea	Watan New York	Accessories
101 York Ave. (at 10th St.)		
212-697-4495		
GALLERY		
Upper East	Gallery Sakiko	Gallery
101 York Ave. (at 10th St.)		
212-697-4495		
Midtown East	Room Gallery*	Gallery
401 Madison Ave. (at 10th St.)		
212-697-4495		
Chelsea	NYC Gallery	Gallery
101 York Ave. (at 10th St.)		
212-697-4495		
Chelsea	Quick Gallery	Gallery
101 York Ave. (at 10th St.)		
212-697-4495		
Chelsea	PoLo	Gallery
101 York Ave. (at 10th St.)		
212-697-4495		
Chelsea	gallery contemporary	Gallery
101 York Ave. (at 10th St.)		
212-697-4495		

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MeetJapanLady.com
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Chelsea	Gallery Gen	Gallery
401 York Ave. (at 10th St.)		
212-697-4495		
OTHER		
Midtown West	Toko Shop NY*	Accessories
101 York Ave. (at 10th St.)		
212-697-4495		
Midtown West	ZIPANGI Shopware	Accessories
101 York Ave. (at 10th St.)		
212-697-4495		
Midtown East	IPPOO TEA	Accessories
101 York Ave. (at 10th St.)		
212-697-4495		
Chelsea	Mulberry	Accessories
101 York Ave. (at 10th St.)		
212-697-4495		
West Village	Mulberry's Tea & Coffee*	Accessories
101 York Ave. (at 10th St.)		
212-697-4495		
Chelsea	The Mountain Tea Room	Accessories
101 York Ave. (at 10th St.)		
212-697-4495		
New Jersey	Nippon Auto Leasing	Accessories
101 York Ave. (at 10th St.)		
212-697-4495		
Chelsea	IKU Japan	Accessories
101 York Ave. (at 10th St.)		
212-697-4495		
Chelsea	LEPIDA Fresh Tea	Accessories
101 York Ave. (at 10th St.)		
212-697-4495		
HOUSEHOLD GOODS		
Upper East	Sam Japanese Pottery*	Accessories
101 York Ave. (at 10th St.)		
212-697-4495		
Midtown East	Japanese Culture Center	Accessories
101 York Ave. (at 10th St.)		
212-697-4495		
Chelsea	Kore*	Accessories
101 York Ave. (at 10th St.)		
212-697-4495		
Chelsea	Sento New York	Accessories
101 York Ave. (at 10th St.)		
212-697-4495		
New Jersey	Kinokuniya Central*	Accessories
101 York Ave. (at 10th St.)		
212-697-4495		

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MONO-logue

"Mono" means "thing," "object," or "product" in Japanese, but it also implies that the thing has quality. In this corner, we introduce "mono" that characterize Japan's spirit of constant quality improvement.

Vol. 57 - MONO of the month

ROHTO Cool Max Eye Drops

When it comes to eye irritation, some people seem resigned to suffer through their discomfort. We are conditioned to carry around lip balm, hand sanitizer, head sanitizer, and breath mints, yet many of us still neglect eye drops. This is senseless, because not only do our eyes greatly influence how we feel overall, but also how we appear to those around us. And thanks to Rohto, the leading global manufacturer of eye drops, including the uniquely cooling CoolMax series, we now have even more reasons to invest in and carry around eye drops.

a non-squirting, single drop dispenser — the only package of its kind on the market.

The relief from the Rohto Cool Max is immediately clear upon impact. The solution just feels good, and quickly takes away all of the discomfort that one may be feeling — whether caused by fatigue or the environment. The irritation is gone, and when looking in the mirror, it's clear that the drops have taken away redness and made the eye look whiter and clearer. And the feeling is addictive — the moment the liquid touches your eye and you see how refreshed you look, you'll want to use it again.

Rohto has been making eye drops for over a century. Founded in 1886 in Osaka, Japan, the company first began as Shintendo Yasutami Yamada Pharmaceutical Company, created by founder Yasutami Yamada. The name change to Rohto came about in 1909 when they introduced their first Rohto Eyedrops, which became a hugely successful product. "Rohto" was named after German ophthalmologist August van Hoffmann, who was a mentor to Dr. Toyotaro Itohara — a leading authority in ophthalmology and early supporter of Rohto. The company eventually grew to such heights that it even purchased the Menzoban Company — the legendary American health care company — in 1989.

Along with CoolMax, the lineup of Rohto products includes Rohto® Cool, which clears and brightens red, irritated eyes; Rohto® Ice, a guaranteed multi-symptom relief, including soothing redness, refreshing and hydrating dry eyes, as well as countering itching and burning; Rohto® Relief takes care of seasonal itch and burn from pollen, dust and cigarette. And for those who require tear support, Rohto® Hydra restores moisture and releases irritation by mimicking natural tears.

Considering all of the challenges of the city lifestyle, from environmental elements to social commitments, eye drops should be indispensable for most people. "Staying out late and not getting enough sleep can cause your eyes to become red and irritated," said Daniel Liberman, Senior Marketing Manager, Rohto of The Menzoban Company. "Often referred to as the secret weapon of Hollywood makeup artists, Rohto Cooling Eye Drops are the world's favorite brand to whiten, brighten, and soothe your eyes."

ROHTO

www.rohtoeyedrops.com



Recognize the best? Rohto has been looking at you from the shelves for over a century. If you haven't tried it yet, what are you waiting for?



You really don't have to get your eye as close to the bottle like this house before.



Eye drops seem good for the cause, but Rohto proves that not all of them are made alike. What makes their line of products so distinctive is the cooling sensation. Thanks to the proprietary Freshlick™ formula, these drops relieve irritation and soothe and comfort eyes for up to 8 hours. Also unique is the design of the bottle. Quite often, the main complaint that people have about eye drops is the potential to get it all over you — understandable because aiming anything into the eye can be distressing. But the bottle features

Along with CoolMax, Rohto also offers Ice, Hydro, Cool and Relief, each with its own advantages. From allergy relief to moisturizing natural tears.



Lifelong Hairstyle Partner

Shingl of SHAIR

Please tell us about your hair salon SHAIR

It's a small neighborhood hair salon in Greenwich Village. Our four stylists are experienced and skilled to provide all hair services from cut and color to perms and treatment, but the most important aspect of the salon is its family-oriented friendliness.

Could you elaborate on that aspect?

I want to create a casual, relaxed atmosphere that encourages customers to come back, just to chat, or drink freshly brewed coffee and tea while taking a rest on the storefront bench. It would be nice if I could open a coffee house next door!

What is your signature service?

I like short hairstyles because they change people's images with even tiny touches of cuts or curls. But what I always keep in mind is how I can make my

clients be customers for life. My ultimate goal is to be a lifelong hairstylist for people. For this reason, I spend time and effort in understanding what each customer really wants. It's not an easy job and of course it can be hit or miss, but I consider this my lifetime aspiration.

What do you see for spring hair trends or styles?

We've seen a trend of the long bob, but I like to make it lighter and suggest a short bob cut just around the chin. Also, because springtime is still dry treatments and scalp care are recommended.

How do you keep yourself healthy?

Eating well and laughing a lot, nothing more. I work seven days a week, so eating a lot is the only way I can turn off my stress.



SHAIR clients in the late Greenwich Village neighborhood Dumbo/Wythe. They consider us a neighborhood, dining destination that welcomes everyone.



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How to eradicate dandruff on

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HELLEN 212-732-7600 www.hellen-nails.com

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212-644-8058 www.rhplusny.com
Mon-Fri: 10am-8pm
Sat & Sun: 10am-7pm



Beauty Guide

Included prices are "door forward" prices for hair salon and recommended treatments for on for spa.

Chopsticks available at www.chopsticksnyc.com

Chopsticks NY available to pick up

HAIR SALON

Upper West: **Washu Coupe II**

314 Broadway 10013-1 \$45

Upper West: **K's Salon**

107 W 94th St, between E 23rd Ave & 24th Ave \$25

Upper East: **Mocha**

200 E 86th St, bet 2nd & 3rd Ave \$75

Upper East: **Takayama Salon***

100 W 45th St, bet 1st & 2nd Ave \$100

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100 W 45th St, bet 1st & 2nd Ave \$100

Midtown East: **Washu Salon***

325 5th Ave, bet 2nd & 3rd Ave \$75

Midtown East: **Mingles/SOHO New York**

10 E 9th St, bet 1st & 2nd Ave \$45

Midtown East: **Messiaha***

217 4th St, bet 1st & 2nd Ave \$75

Midtown East: **RH Photo Salon***

100 W 45th St, bet 1st & 2nd Ave \$100

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100 W 45th St, bet 1st & 2nd Ave \$100

East Village: **Washu Coupe II**

214 E 10th St, bet 2nd & 3rd Ave \$75

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214 E 10th St, bet 2nd & 3rd Ave \$75

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207 E. 10th St. (bet. 1st & 2nd) \$10
 212-217-1738

Yokosuka Hair*

243 Beatty St. (bet. Tenney & Beatty St.) \$10-25
 212-465-7025

Tokyo Hair Salon

607 E. 10th St. (bet. 1st & 2nd Ave.) \$10-25
 212-266-7027

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Let's Celebrate Hinamatsuri for Grownups!



One of my favorite Japanese observances is Hinamatsuri, or Girls' Day. Celebrated each year on March 3rd, this special day is a time for Japanese people to pray for the health and happiness of girls in the hopes that they will grow up gracefully. When I think of Hinamatsuri, images of elaborate displays of dolls, diamond-shaped rice cakes called *hishi-mochi*, and *amazake*, a traditional beverage made from fermented rice, immediately come to mind.

Although *amazake* literally means "sweet sake," it's a non-alcoholic beverage. Sake Sommelier, Chisako Nakawa-Helton, wants to expand the tradition of Hinamatsuri by celebrating Girls' Day with alcohol—a kind of Hinamatsuri for grownups! The founder of Sake Discoveries, a company that introduces Japanese sake brands to the U.S., she selected four different sake brands for me to sample.

My first taste was of *Amakubo Asoma Gengo*. This sake is made of strawberry yeast through a secret process that's protected by the Tokyo University of Agriculture. I enjoyed the juicy texture, and it's easy to drink. Nakawa-Helton recommends pairing this with prosciutto and other cold meats.

Next I tried *Hinoten Aomori "Hime"* (means "princess," so it's the perfect choice for Girls' Day!) I

immediately tasted the burst of sweetness, and although the flavor is like umami, there are no plums in this sake.

My favorite of the bunch does have plums, *Dine-shu by Nambu Bijin*. The rice has a taste any plum lover I've ever had. The brewery has a special patent to produce this *umeshu*, which is made from 100% *kyo* rice, giving it a natural sweetness with no added sugar. Its beautiful pink color comes from the skin of locally grown green plums.

Finally, *Kadabara Matsuri* made by Tatehikawa Brewery. The incredible aroma enhances the bold and citrusy flavor, which lingers on the tongue. You can have this sake chilled, on the rocks, or with plain sake—but it's also surprisingly good served warm.

In fact, all of these sakes are versatile enough to be enjoyed warm, cold, or in a cocktail. While these brands of sake can be described as "feminine," anyone can enjoy them, especially people who don't drink a lot of alcohol or aren't familiar with sake. With this excellent lineup, everyone can enjoy Hinamatsuri for grownups!

—Reported by Susan Menaker

Info: www.sakediscoveries.com, www.dine-shu.com, www.kadabara.com



Celebrate Hinamatsuri in style! Sake has delicious sake brands recommended by Nakawa-Helton.



Three lovely plastic *hishimochi* and elegant *hishimochi* sake cups are perfect for enjoying Hinamatsuri sake.



Nakawa-Helton developed a sake cocktail "Strawberry Fennel," with natural Asomae Asoma Gengo strawberry liquor and medicinal fennel. It is available at Japan (201) 306-4444, NYC for weekend brunch.



Every Saturday from 11am-3pm Nakawa-Helton introduces sake culture by serving warm sake at "Sake Cocktails" at ADOJO (41) Center St., NYC.

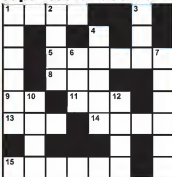
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Japanese CROSSWORD



Across

1. Soybean curd that is a good source of protein for vegetarians
2. "Red" in Japanese
3. "Staircase" and "horror story" are both pronounced _____ in Japanese
4. "Yellow" in Japanese
5. ____ (also written) is a popular sushi topping
6. Life "thin" and "thick," this word is used to point out something far from the speaker
7. A noun meaning "diagonal"
8. Eye(s) in Japanese
9. The art and craft of folding paper is _____
10. Casual way to refer to oneself (instead of using "I") that is used only by men
11. This word, meaning "inlet," is pronounced the same way as the word meaning "lane"
12. This word, meaning "inlet," is pronounced the same way as the word meaning "lane"
13. ____-sake is a rice dish with savory toppings and tea poured over it
14. ____-sake is a rice dish with savory toppings and tea poured over it
15. I-adjective + meaning "toasty"

"Japanese has two forms of adjectives, i-adjectives and sa-adjectives. The decisive form of the former ends with a sound 'i' while the latter ends with 'en.' They conjugate in different ways."

Down

1. A word that is used to emphasize adjectives, meaning "very much," "extremely," or "highly"
2. While kimono means traditional Jap-



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School Guide

The following is a list of schools whose info we have from Japanese consulates.

• Copies available at www.chopsticksny.com
• Copies also NOT available to pick up.

LANGUAGE

Upper West **Friends Academy***
2019 15th St. NYC 10018-1104
(212) 654-4200 Japanes

Upper West **Japan ICU Foundation**
400 Ave. 20th St. NYC 10011-1001
(212) 654-4200 Japanes

Upper West **Your True Self**
501 10th St. NYC 10011-1001
(212) 654-4200 Japanes

Midtown West **NY Japanese Language**
201 W. 20th St. NYC 10011-1001
(212) 654-4200 Japanes

Midtown West **The Japan Society**
100 W. 20th St. NYC 10011-1001
(212) 654-4200 Japanes

Midtown East **Amity Language Institute***
101 W. 20th St. NYC 10011-1001
(212) 654-4200 Japanes

Midtown East **Public Language**
101 W. 20th St. NYC 10011-1001
(212) 654-4200 Japanes

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(212) 654-4200 Japanes

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(212) 654-4200 Japanes

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101 W. 20th St. NYC 10011-1001
(212) 654-4200 Japanes

Midtown East **PG Tech***
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Upper West	Seikwa Shoda	Calligraphy
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Upper West	Sagehen Budocho School	Bokuso
201 W 44th St (at Hudson St) Sat 212-697-7801		
Upper East	Urasenke Chawanjo Do	Tea
193 E 54th St (at 5th Ave) Sat 212-697-7801		
Midtown West	Oliver New York Floral Design	Floral Design
1545 Ave St (at 15th St) Sat 10-6pm Sat 212-697-7801		
Midtown West	NIKKO WASHU USA	Cherry Blossom
1410 Broadway 2017 Sat 10-5pm Sat 212-697-7801		
Midtown West	The Nippon Club	Tea
101 W 57th St (at 5th Ave) Sat 212-697-7801		
Midtown West	N.J. Toga Kyushu*	Tea
1545 Ave St (at 15th St) Sat 10-6pm Sat 212-697-7801		
Midtown East	Goto Books and Gifts	Books
101 E 57th St (at 5th Ave) Sat 212-697-7801		
Chelsea	Bokuso Heaven New York	Bokuso
101 E 57th St (at 5th Ave) Sat 212-697-7801		

Lower Midtown	Tokumori Calligraphy Class	Calligraphy
31 West 5th St (at Hudson St) Sat 212-697-7801		
Upper West	Kinokuni Kasei	Tea
193 E 54th St (at 5th Ave) Sat 212-697-7801		
Upper East	Hakko-ko Ryudo Dojo School	Tea
201 E 54th St (at 5th Ave) Sat 212-697-7801		
Upper East	Obana School	Tea
201 E 54th St (at 5th Ave) Sat 212-697-7801		
MARTIAL ARTS		
Upper West	Aikido Up Here	Aikido
193 E 54th St (at 5th Ave) Sat 212-697-7801		
Upper West	O-Dojo	Tea
193 E 54th St (at 5th Ave) Sat 212-697-7801		
Upper West	Kohashi Dojo Institute*	Tea
193 E 54th St (at 5th Ave) Sat 212-697-7801		
Upper West	Shorinji Matsukiyoshi*	Tea
193 E 54th St (at 5th Ave) Sat 212-697-7801		
Upper West	Shorinji Matsukiyoshi*	Tea
193 E 54th St (at 5th Ave) Sat 212-697-7801		
Upper West	UWS Karate Dojo*	Tea
193 E 54th St (at 5th Ave) Sat 212-697-7801		



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- *Shuichi Kizumi: Soba Master, Consultant Tokachi Yagihara's - Slurping table, Jin Ramen and more.

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P. 40 Asian Travel



Malaysia

In this tropical country, tourists witness a harmonious mix of Malay, Chinese and Indian cultures as well as dynamic nature and exciting cuisines.

P. 42 Asian Beauty + Health



Turmeric

Often used in Southeast Asian cooking, turmeric is a proper herbal remedy with many wonderful health benefits. Learn about the power of this root vegetable.

P. 43 Asian Restaurant Review



Songkran Thai Kitchen

The authentic Thai restaurant redefines "authenticity" by serving their dishes according to New York's four seasons.

BUCKET LIST TRAVEL: MALAYSIA

Malaysia has been a popular destination for some time now, and has attracted many repeat visitors thanks to its impeccable balance of modern lifestyle and beautiful natural settings. Is it now the right opportunity for you to go for the first time, or go back to see how things have changed? With the help of Yara at the local **Tourism Malaysia** bureau, we've collated together the most up-to-date information for those interested in going there.

Malaysia is actually separated by the South China Sea, as it is located partly on a peninsula of the Asian mainland and partly on the northern third of the island of Borneo. The western side, which shares a border with Thailand, is connected by a causeway and a bridge (dubbed the 'second link') to neighboring Singapore, and has coastlines on the South China Sea and the Straits of Malacca. In contrast, the East side shares borders with Brunei and Indonesia. Malaysia's tropical climate keeps things hot and humid all year round, but be aware that October to March is monsoon season, which can affect the waters along the Eastern Coast. But overall, rain is sporadic and only happens for a day or period of time during a given day.

Getting There. Commercial travel to Malaysia is thriving, so there are many flights to choose from. Fuel free to splash, but there are also very good options for low-cost flights. The US dollar goes a long way in Malaysia due to the currency exchange (about 4.3 Ringgit to \$1 USD) as of this writing), so local flights, hotels, and restaurants are affordable, even

at the five-star level. Once there, the bus and train system is quite useful for getting around the country, and because English is widely spoken, it is very easy to communicate your needs and questions.

Multicultural Haven. One of the unforgettable aspects of Malaysia is the local society. The harmonious mix of Malay, Chinese and Indian cultures is a delight to witness, and there is a range of cuisines, colorful festivities, and ethnic dances. If you want to come during especially festive times, consider the holidays of Eid-ul-Fitr (Muslim, around Jan/Feb), Chinese New Year (around February), Thaipusam (Hindu, around January / February), Wesak Day (Buddhist birthday of the Mary), Tabak Kaamatan (Indigenous Harvest Festival, late May) and National Day (Aug 31).

Natural Paradise. There are not only beautiful islands and beaches, but also historical monuments and natural landmarks. Malaysia has a total of about 838 islands, and **Taman Negara** national park is home to the oldest tropical rainforest in the world. East Malaysia (Borneo) offers nature excursions that present wildlife including orangutans and Proboscis monkeys. Take in breathtaking vistas from locations like the top of **Mount Kinabalu** (the highest peak on the Crocker Range). And if you're lucky, you may see a Rafflesia—the largest flower in the world—that



blooms unpredictably throughout the year.

From Kuala Lumpur to the Beach. For first timers, choosing the country's capital city as your home base would be a great start. **Kuala Lumpur** is a famously food-obsessed city, and the *nasi lemak*—the national dish of rice cooked in coconut milk and accompanied with a variety of garnishes and wrapped in a banana leaf—alone comes in countless variations because of the diverse cultures. While you set your way through Malay, Chinese, and Indian dishes, you can explore sights such as the Petronas Twin Towers, which was until recently the tallest buildings in the world. At night, the city has no shortage of bars and clubs. And make sure to take a day trip to Malacca, a historical city that was once colonized by the Portuguese, Dutch, and British, and is home to historical sites like A Famosa and St. Paul's Church.

For the most immersive beach experience, head to **Langkawi Island** at the northern tip of the country. Beautiful beaches adorn the coastline here, and there are many historical / mythical landmarks to visit, including the famous Eagle structure in the Kuah district, the Lake of the Fragrant Mist (which promotes fertility, and Mahua's tomb, which apparently caused the sea to freeze 7 generations (though the curse is expired now). And there's plenty of duty-free shopping as well, so you can bring home lots of mementos of your time here.

Tourism Malaysia
www.tourism.gov.my



Drop off my car to Langkawi Island and a walk along the Sky Bridge. A truly unforgettable view through nature.



The Petronas Twin Towers are the connecting achievement of the Kuala Lumpur City Centre. A great landmark to visit on a day in KL.



You can't take this fellow home, but Singapore is just one of many species that you'll get to see during your trip.

Timeless, Tasteful Thai Style with Tui Pranich



Designer Tui Pranich was born in Thailand and educated in New York. He's been traveling the world his entire life, and it shows in his elegant, timeless interior designs, which embrace style elements from all over the globe. Naturally, his spaces have Thai flavor too! Here, the acclaimed designer whose creations have been featured in *Architectural Digest* and *Departures* magazines, shares with *Chopsticks* readers a few insider tips so anyone may decorate with timeless Thai style.

How has the interior style of your native Thailand influenced your design aesthetic?

Tui Pranich [TP]: I grew up with an appreciation of the decorative arts that Thailand has always been known for: splendid silks, beautiful teak furniture, and bronzeware. Today, these items are found in New York's most stylish spaces – such as Setai Club and Spa on Broad Street, which I designed using hard and soft goods from Thailand. Some pieces from my Tui Lifestyle collection is made in Thailand. But you don't have

to be Asian to appreciate Thai style. A lot of very high-end brands are doing their manufacturing in Thailand. It's the design world's best-kept secret.

Are there some elements of Thai style that work better in a New York apartment than others?

TP: In Thailand, we tend to use a lot of bright colors, such as orange and gold. But New York is mainly about neutral colors – so here, we decorate with vibrant Thai-style cotton or occasional accents. For example, when designing draperies for a neutral interior, I like to use brightly-colored silks by Jim Thompson, which are made in Thailand. In warm climates that are similar to Thailand, such as Florida, brighter colors are used more throughout the home, not only for draperies, but upholstery too.

If someone wanted to travel to Thailand to buy furniture, what should they keep in mind?

TP: Keep in mind that a lot of Thai furniture is quite small by Western standards, here in America, our furnishings tend to be big. Carefully measure

your existing furniture before you travel, so that what you buy overseas will work with the scale of what you already have in your home. Many times, travelers have been heartbroken when a beautiful item of Thai teak furniture didn't fit into their apartment when it was shipped home!

You have homes in New York City and Miami; your New York place is a loft inside in the landmark Bank Building. Can someone who doesn't live in a grand, historic space still have a great-looking home?

TP: Absolutely! The key is to create your own style. Look through the design magazines, go to museums and galleries, clubs and restaurants, and discover what you like. Don't try to copy other people's style. When you create your own, your space will be personal and unique to you – that is great style.

You have an impressive art collection, including work by Jeff Koons, David Hockney, Alex Katz, Tashima Hara, Frank Stella, and Tom Wesselmann, among many others. What is your advice about living with art?

TP: Have good art or no art. Go to art fairs such as Art Basel to be inspired by great new talent. But don't buy art as decorates. Art should not match your furniture – I think that's wrong. Art is its own individual thing. Find out what you like, and buy yourself one piece that you love every year. You will find that art can change the appearance of your space. If you hang a small artwork over a large sofa, this makes the room look smaller. Use reverse psychology and hang a large artwork over the sofa, even if you have a small space – it will actually make the room feel bigger.

Thailand-born, Cornell University-educated designer Tui Pranich is known internationally for his elegant interiors and timeless sense of style. His 30-year career includes design projects for billionaires, pop stars, film celebrities and royalty.



Tui Pranich & Associates
900 Broadway St., Miami, FL 33132
www.tuipranichdesign.com

Tui Lifestyle Furniture NYC Store
136 Madison St., New York, NY 10012



A GOLDEN BULLET FOR HEALTH AND BEAUTY: TURMERIC

— Reported by Jolita Soato

Turmeric, the root of the rhizomatous *Curcuma longa* plant and a close cousin of ginger root, has been a key ingredient in Indian cooking for centuries — its wet roots carry that signature yellow hue. But turmeric has much more to offer than just great flavor and golden color. In fact, turmeric is a proven herbal remedy with many wonderful health benefits.

According to Dr. Josh Axe, author of *The Real Food Diet Cookbook*, “Turmeric is arguably the most powerful herb on the planet at fighting and potentially reversing disease.” The active ingredient of turmeric is called curcumin. As Dr. Axe explains, “A number of studies have even reported that using curcumin is more advantageous than certain prescription drugs.” There’s no way anyone could possibly get the therapeutic dose of curcumin from turmeric alone, so keep these health benefits, a daily curcumin supplement is needed. But the extra effort is worthwhile, for curcumin has powerful healing properties.

Due to its anti-inflammatory property, curcumin helps in the management of chronic pain and rheumatoid arthritis. A boost to the immune system, curcumin possesses antioxidant properties that make it an effective weapon in the war against cancer — it actually kills cancer cells. What’s more, curcumin is better at slowing and preventing blood clots than aspirin — and as effective as Plavix at managing mild depression. Curcumin is also very good for brain health and increases memory function, thus preventing cognitive decline. It’s no accident that India has the lowest rate of Alzheimer’s disease in the world, because Indian people eat turmeric in some form every



day single day.

Metabolically antiseptic, turmeric also has many practical applications for people who don’t require medication. Did you burn yourself while cooking turkey? Get fast relief by preparing a mixture of turmeric and olive or a gel. Apply this soothing mixture directly to the burn, and enjoy its soothing and healing effects immediately.

When you feel good, you look good — so the improved wellness we experience after taking turmeric also results in a healthier appearance. But here’s yet another use for this amazing spice: it’s a beauty treatment too! As women age, wrinkles frequently appear on the face, where they are least wanted. Try this

homemade facial scrub to inhibit facial hair growth: mix turmeric powder with chickpea flour and water to form a facial scrub. Apply every day, and you’ll notice results after about a month. Finally, for acne-prone people of all ages, turmeric powder combined with a few drops of water and lemon juice to form a paste is a blemish remedy that’s safe to apply to the affected area. Leave the paste on for 15 minutes, then gently wash it away with plain water. Repeat as often as necessary. Just remember to keep at least one extra jar of turmeric on hand, so you won’t run out — with so many beneficial uses, it’s a wise investment in your daily health and beauty routine.

Two Versatile Turmeric Dressings

The easiest way to take turmeric on a regular basis is to incorporate it into your every day diet. Mix dressings or sauces with turmeric and pour it over your favorite salad, fish, and even meat or fish.



Creamy Turmeric Dressing

Ingredients

- 1/2 tsp turmeric □ 1/2 tsp salt
- 2 tsp olive oil □ 2 tsp mayonnaise
- 1/2 cup plain yogurt

Directions

1. Dissolve turmeric and salt in milk.
2. Add mayonnaise and plain yogurt and stir well.



Spicy Turmeric Dressing

Ingredients

- 1 tsp turmeric □ 1/2 tsp salt □ 1/2 tsp black pepper
- 1 tsp honey □ 3 tsp mixed onion □ 1/4 cup extra virgin olive oil □ 1/2 lemon juice

Directions

1. Mix onion.
2. Thoroughly mix turmeric, salt, black pepper and honey.
3. Add olive oil and vinegar and stir well until oil and vinegar blend.
4. Add mixed onion.



WITH A "SONGKRAN" IN MY HEART SONGKRAN THAI KITCHEN

The Songkran Thai Kitchen in Chelsea, New York takes its name from the traditional Thai festival celebrating New Year's Day every year in April. In doing so, the restaurant declares its passion for and celebration of family-style Thai cuisine that most folks give it credit for. Its menu is regularly adapted to suit the city's seasons, allowing the restaurant to showcase an impressive variety of Thai dishes that other restaurants normally don't. Currently a part of their winter menu, the *Moo-fa-fa* is a hearty, spicy-sour soup with mixed seafood, fish balls, fried tofu, and rice noodles providing a delicious, relaxing way to get your mind off the bitter cold.

Other items include its nine signature dishes, including the "Sole Whip," or *Kapow Gai Kao Dow* consisting of delectable ground chicken with string beans, onion, basil, and fresh chili served with a fried crispy-tender egg. The dish as a whole is a wonderful initiation into Thai cuisine for the whole family to enjoy. It contains just the right amount of mild spices for the uninitiated taste palate. Appetizers include dumplings, a succulent and juicy mixture of chicken, pork, and shrimp, and the Chicken or Steak Satey, skewers of marinated goodness. Happy hour normally occurs between five and eight, starting with a \$5 glass of wine, as well as beer toasts served from the cultural belief that no one should ever drink alone. If you're looking for a nice, cozy atmosphere to settle into and relax, Songkran Thai Kitchen's small environment successfully recreates the unity of family that "Songkran" is all about.



The mildly spicy "Sole Whip" is one of Songkran's signature dishes. But in "The Whip" you can find the delicious music omnipresent.



With a touch of sweetness, hearty and refreshing, the Kapow Gai Kao Dow is a perfect dish when you're warming up in a cold winter day.



One of the most popular requests, the Chicken or Steak Satey has no overpowering flavor.



The atmosphere at Songkran is as lively as their dishes.

Songkran Thai Kitchen

222 10th Ave. (bet. 20th & 21st Sts.), New York, NY 10011 | Tel. 212 233-0702 | www.songkrankitchen.com
 Monday 11:30am - 11 pm Sat & Sun 12pm - 11 pm

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GRANDMA'S TIPS

Helpful and eco-friendly tips that have been handed down from generation to generation.

How to Clean a Cutting Board After Preparing Fish

In order to get rid of the smell after preparing fish, rub the cutting board with salt and scrub with a sponge and cold water. Do not use hot water for this. It causes the opposite effect. In case the salt and scrub method does not take away the smell, rub the salt into the cutting board with the cut side of a lemon and scrub in a circular motion.



Entertainment Event / Leisure

Exhibition

March 2-17 **FREE**

Kime-Kime (Highly-Cute)

skit art proj.

skit art proj will be presenting "kime-kime" featuring work by Akira Kaseo, Reina Kubota, and Kawaii Kase at the Grand Floor Gallery in Park Slope. Brooklyn "kime-kime" is a combination of two distinct slang words in Japanese: *kimechikara*, meaning "tightly unpleasant" or "disgusting" and *kawaii*, meaning "cute/kawaii/cute/ness". In this exhibition, kime-kime combines these contrasting words and creates a surreal party, an object, person, or character that is both cute and repulsive. Opening reception will be held on Mar 11.

Location: the Grand Floor Gallery
343 36 St., (bet. 36 & 46 Ave.) Brooklyn, NY 11215
RS. 464-407-3331 / www.kimekime.com

March 2-19 **FREE**

Colossal Pastels: Japanese Artworks of Divine Creation

The Wagon Gallery at the Nippon Club

"Colossal Pastels: Japanese Artworks of Divine Creation", a collection of accomplished and recognized artists in the fields of classical engravings, scrolls, woodblock prints, painting, lacquer, jewelry, carving, and textiles. Buddhist and Shinto sculptures and ritual objects will be paid homage with the important exhibition "Kamakura" at The Azu Society. "Divinely constituted" mirrors of legend will also be featured in a dynamic display. An exclusive lecture by Hella Gaudel, Curator of Japanese Art at The Los Angeles County Museum of Art, will complement the exhibition on Monday, March 16. The special lecture is free but reservation is required. RSVP at yokohamapastels.org.

Location: 165 W 126 St., (bet. 46 & 48 Ave.) 76 St
New York, NY 10019
RS. 212-587-2222 / www.nipponclub.org

Performance

March 6 **FREE**

**3-11 Japan's Earthquake Memorial Charity Concert
Japanese Christian Church of NJ (JCCNJ)**

The Japanese Christian Church of NJ will be hosting a charity concert to support the 3-11 victims. All donations will be sent to Disaster Care, a volunteer organization established by Gaus Chapel, First Christ Church located in Miyagi, Japan. The concert will feature the prominent The SynchoMNGorus, a faith-based community of vocalists and instrumentalists committed to sharing peace through musical creativity. The concert will also feature Mikko Saute, Soprano Singer; Elizabeth Fujita, Violin; and the Religious Japanese Women's Choir.
Location: 130 1st Pleasant Ave., (bet. 3rd and 4th St.)
Approved: NJ 07067
RS. 201-712-8803 / www.jccnj.org

March 6 **FREE**

Mariko Iwano and Yoko Akiyama in Concert

Performers Mariko Iwano and Yoko Akiyama will present a live concert titled "Spring: Season of the Sakura" at JMA (Japanese American Association) Hall. The program will feature much beloved Japanese songs, many of which will likely be familiar and accessible to members of the audience. All are welcome to join for an enjoyable concert of Japanese favorites. The performance will be offered free of charge.

Location: JMA Hall, Japanese American Association of New York
49 W 45th St., (bet. 36 & 46 Ave.) 10016, New York, NY 10016
japaneseassocny.org

March 14

Wagtailband Live in NY AKATSUKI

Irving Plaza

The Wagtailband is an 8 piece band that fuses folk music with traditional Japanese poetry and music. Five women: Yuka Sawahara performs "Shigyo" a poetry rec-

itation created as Japanese traditional performing arts. The other seven members play on traditional Japanese musical instruments: *wagtails*, shamisen, koto, taiko and shakuhachi. Their latest single "Wagtails on Radio" is the theme song for the popular anime Attack on Titan and their single "Goshoshoika" has over 23 million views on YouTube. "Akatsuki", meaning "dawn" or "new beginning" is the lead track from their newest album. Tickets are available via Ticketmaster.

Location: Irving Plaza, (bet. 36 and 46 St.)
New York, NY 10017
RS. 212-577-4855 / www.ingvillage.com

March 26 **FREE**

**11th Annual Concert of Japanese Heritage Institute
(NHJCI) Music**

Heidelberg Inn Medieval Japanese Studies (NHJCI)

The NHJCI and Japanese Heritage Institute, in collaboration with Columbia University, presents its 11th Annual Concert of Japanese Heritage Music. The concert will feature: Hiroko Nakamura (vocals), Takashi Suenobuchi (guitar), Miyum Miyuki (bass), Hideo Hongo (drums), Fuyuhiko Suzuki (bass & guitar).

Columbia University Guggenheim Instrumental Ensemble and others. The concert will include classical Japanese musical genres such as *Goshoika* and *Goshoshoika* (yo and kyô) along contemporary pieces inspired by poetry and painting. The concert is free and open to the public but registration is required for seating purposes.
Location: Miller Theater at Columbia University
2960 Broadway, (at 116th St.) New York, NY 10027
RS. 212-654-7400
www.columbia.edu/~nhjci



Lecture/Festival/ Film/Workshop

March 4-10

**Yengo Do's Late Spring/Restoration Screening
Film Forum**

Yengo Do is a legendary film director known for his shonen-geki (films about everyday people). A new 4K restoration of *Do's Late Spring* (1949), starring Sessue Hayakawa, will be screened at the Film Forum for one week only. Late Spring carries around a young woman in post-war Japan, taking care of her ailing mother before being partitioned into marriage by her aunt and friend. Sessue Hayakawa's performance and Do's unique filming style make *Late Spring* a classic.

Location: 209 W. Houston St., (bet. 4th Ave. and West St.)
New York, NY 10014
RL: 212-727-6100 / www.filmforum.org

March 14

Citizenship Workshop and Exhibition

Friends Academy of Japanese Children's Society
At the Friends Academy of Japanese Children's Society where young children through high school aged kids can receive Japanese language instruction, there will be a citizenship workshop. There will be two separate sessions. Anyone interested in Japanese culture, from elementary school age kids to adults, is warmly invited to

join. Reservations are required in advance via telephone or email.



Location: 210 W. 132nd St. (bet. West End Ave. & Riverside Dr.)
New York, NY 10023
RL: 212-825-8333 / www.jpsschool.org

March 15

Travel/Japanese Workshop

The Japanese Foundation/The Nippon Club

The Japanese Foundation New York will be hosting a travel/Japanese workshop to teach future travelers essential traveling vocabulary and phrases in Japanese through fun activities. Attendees will learn simple greetings, how to order food at a restaurant using simple terms, shopping phrases and how to tell your destination to a taxi driver or station agent. Attendees will also learn Japanese customs and useful travel information. Reservations are necessary. RSVP to goatscott@jfy.org and include name, phone number, e-mail address, and Japanese language proficiency level.

Location: The Nippon Club

105 W. 57th St., (bet. 4th and 7th Ave.) New York, NY 10019
www.jfy.org

March 16

**Naomi Kawase Sweet Bean U.S. Premiere
Lincoln Plaza Cinema**

Acclaimed Japanese director Naomi Kawase's new art film, *Sweet Bean*, is a poignant and exquisite introduction to generational drama about three characters finding connections in the most unexpected ways. It begins with a introverted lover, Satoru (Masatoshi Nagase) who runs a "derivative" shop (specialties filled with sweet bean paste) in the suburbs of Tokyo. A 70-year-old Takao (Kimi Kato) persistently asks Satoru to work in his shop and eventually he accepts. The occurrence is the start of change for Satoru. Takao and Waka (a regular at the shop) as they begin to open their hearts to reveal old wounds and painful secrets.

Location: 1000 Broadway (bet. W. 43rd and W. 45th St.)
New York, NY 10013
RL: 212-757-6231 / www.lincolncinema.com

March 27

**Salon Series No. 54 "Yoku" Resonance in Japanese
Music, Dance and Literature**

Schuyler Inc. & Company

Inspired by Salon Series' 2014 theme, "Mu" (special concept of time and space in Japanese culture), the idea of "Yoku" (resonance) and its importance in Japanese literature and performing arts will be investigated through music, dance and poetry. John Stevenson will discuss the resonance in *haiku* and its influence on Western poetry while James Schuyler will talk about resonance in Japanese music. Schuyler will play his *shakuhachi* flute, to which Schuyler is well known. The program will conclude with improvisational dance and music by him and Schuyler as a *haiku* conceived by Stevenson.

Location: First Cultural Institute
434 W. 125th St. (bet. 56th & 61st Ave.) New York, NY 10027
www.schuylerinc.com / info@schuylerinc.com
RL: 212-437-0285

Event Feature

March 19

**Neighborhood Concert:
Soh Daiko**

**Carnegie Hall / LaGuardia Performing
Arts Center**

Carnegie Hall celebrates its 40th year of partnering with local community organizations to present live Neighborhood Concerts at various locations around the five boroughs of New York City. These performances feature exceptional non-stage artists in small or existing rising stars from classical, jazz, and world music. Neighborhood Concerts, which are open to all, tap into the pulse of diverse communities across the city and bring local musicians together to share in the joy of music.

On Mar. 19, New York-based drumming collective Soh Daiko will bring its unique style of traditional Japanese taiko drumming to the Mainstage Theatre



at LaGuardia Community College's Performing Arts Center. Selections to be performed include Japanese Shinto music and taiko compositions as well as original arrangements composed by the members of Soh Daiko. With a variety of visual elements, dynamic choreography and impressive athleticism, Soh Daiko's high-energy performances are exhilarating. Tickets are free but reservations are required in advance online at the phone.

Location: LaGuardia Performing Arts Center
**37 W. Houston Ave., (bet. 31st & New York St.)
Long Island City, NY 11101**
RL: 718-632-6551 / www.laguardiaperformingarts.org

Event

March 8 / FRIDAY

TOGETHER FOR A VI

Philadelphia For Japan

At the 15th anniversary of 3.11 Japan's Earthquake and Tsunami, a Memorial Ceremony will be held with guest speakers including the Consul General of Japan in New York, survivors, local support organizations and more. Five years after the tragedy, many of the strokes remain.

are being assisted, but 68,000 people still live in temporary housing. In order to encourage victims who are still suffering from the devastation and help their recovery, people get together, listen to these voices of the survivors through video recordings, and pray together. Admission is free and donations for Japan Relief are accepted. All profits will be used to support relief in Northeastern Japan's affected areas. Memorial ceremony will take place from 4-15 p.m.

Location: First Church of Christ, Second
10 W. 40th St., 4th Central Park West, New York, NY 10023
www.praying.org/GigawattNYC/40thStreetNY.html

March 18-19

Japan Week 2016

Japan National Tourism Organization

Sponsored by the Japan National Tourism Organization, Japan Week returns to New York for its fifth straight year in honor of the new Hokkaido Shinkansen as well as the fifth anniversary of the Great East Japan Earthquake this year's event will focus on the arrival and new-made wonders that visitors can experience in the Hokkaido and Northern Tohoku regions of Japan. Among the many attractions will be a special exhibition on lanterns, such as conveyor belt lanterns which is very popular in Japan.

Location: New York Hall of Science, Grand Central Terminal
www.japanweek.us

March 11-13

Asomori Fair in New York

Sourtoe Mart

All locations of Japanese grocery store Sourtoe Mart including the East Village, SoHo, and Midtown, will be hosting



an Asomori Fair featuring Asahi products from Asahi Production in Japan. Guests can sample local specialties such as fresh caramel toffee (also crackers), hand-crafted yogurt drink, healthy mulberry tea, balsamic apples, black garlic, apple juice, miso marinated rockfish, and shakushi (soft cooked squid). A step counter from Asomori Production will be on hand to allow demonstrators and answer questions if additional Sourtoe Mart store visit day.

Location: 8th Avenue St., 3rd & 4th Ave., 2nd St.
New York, NY 10003

4th Avenue St., 4th Avenue St. & W. 4th Avenue St.
New York, NY 10013

17 E. 40th St., 4th Avenue St. & 5th Ave., New York, NY 10013

March 13

Japan ICU Study Abroad Orientation

Japan ICU Foundation

Japan International Christian University in Japan's premier four-year liberal college and university first offers students a bilingual (English-Japanese) and global education in an international setting. Japan ICU's President Junko Miyaji will be in New York in March to give a presentation about study abroad opportunities. These include graduate, undergraduate, one-year exchange and summer language programs. All interested high school and college students as well as parents, counselors, professors, advisors and friends are welcome to attend. Make a reservation at info.jicu.org/jcuinfo.

Location: 675 Avenue St., 3rd, 13th and 12th St., Suite 103
New York, NY 10013
www.jicu.org

Happenings

Free Shiroto or Whisky-Taste Highlight

AZASU

AZASU, a new vending concept kiosk, is offering a special Shiroto promotion throughout the month of March. Guests who check into the restaurant on Facebook and order include a photo of their food with the chicken (anything is ok) or get a free for their chicken will receive a free highlight cocktail upon showing this Facebook post to the staff. The highlight is available with either a shiroto base or a whisky base.

Location: 4th Avenue St., 3rd, 4th & 5th Ave. St.
New York, NY 10002
www.azasu.com

Complimentary Kamida Hair Treatment

Beleza New York

Japanese style hair salon Beleza New York which opened last April in Midtown, is offering a special promotion exclusively for Choptank NY readers. The first five readers who make an appointment for a cut or color will receive a complimentary Vital Shot Concentrate Keratin Treatment service (Reg. \$75) to revitalize and rejuvenate their hair. A single concentration treatment of keratin shields and repairs strands, reducing frizziness, softness, and shine. Be sure to mention Choptank NY upon making your reservation.

Location: 237 E. 57th St., 3rd, 2nd & 3rd Ave., New York, NY 10022
www.beleza.com



Specialty Pressed Backpage Highlights

Hair by MYOJU

A hairstyle with over 20 years' experience, Myo Aokiuchi has worked with private clients, celebrities, and fashion shows. Her goal is to bring out the beauty in all her clients, believing that everyone should love their hair. She is offering a special promotion for a cut and color featuring the popular balayage technique, in which dye is painted in the hair to create natural-looking highlights. New only \$250, or available for \$150 until Mar. 31.

Location: 30th Ave. 4th St.
3rd, 2nd Ave. & Cooper St.
New York, NY 10003
www.hairbymyoju.com



Free Mizumi Concombre with Order

ON/way

Located in Bushwick, Japanese fusion eatery ON/way specializes in delicious creative and playful Japanese and Japanese-Mexican dishes that can be enjoyed in a relaxing communal atmosphere. This March, ON/way is introducing a new style of waste-based dishes. Guests who order Wabiabi Beer and Tiro Wabiabi will receive a complimentary serving of Wabiabi Concombre, one per table. This offer is exclusively available to Choptank NY readers, so be sure to mention Choptank NY.

Location: 10th Avenue St., 3rd, 4th St. & 5th Ave. St.
Brooklyn, NY 11220
www.onway.com

Free Dazzler with Feedback Check-In

Tokidoki Tokyo

Japanese restaurant Tokidoki, which specializes in yakuza Japanese style barbecue featuring carefully selected high quality meats, is conducting a Facebook promotion through the end of March. Guests checking into the restaurant on Facebook will receive a complimentary Dazzler of the Day upon showing their check-in to the staff. Tokidoki is also offering a special Seasonal Pick



Five Courses of three levels: \$70, \$100, and \$150. The recent medley \$80 course features Wagyu special Toro sashimi, made from marbled Japanese beef, as well as a variety of delicious delicacies.

Location: 37 W. 17th St., (bet. 5th & 6th Ave.), New York, NY 10011
TEL: 212-430-8323 / www.yakuboku-hotel.com

\$59 In-Home Massage Special Mediana Healing Arts

Mediana Healing Arts provides traditional Thai massage treatments and a variety of massage services and classes. They are offering a special in-home massage service at a discount price until the end of March. For a reduced price of \$59 (Reg. \$149), customers can enjoy a 50 minute massage from a choice of Thai, Yoga, a combination of Thai massage styles, Sports or Deep-Tissue massages. This offer is only available for Manhattan residents. Reservations must be made between 12 pm and 8 pm by phone.

Location: 252 Madison Ave., (bet. 29th & 40th St.)
New York, NY 10017
TEL: 646-481-8727 / www.spa-danmango.com

20% OFF Sweets for Chopsticks NY Desserts KULU Desserts



KULU Desserts provides a wide variety of traditional and Asian fusion sweets including cupcake bubble tea, Hong Kong style sweet soups, and more. KULU Desserts are Asian ingredients daily to produce healthy, low calorie desserts without losing the flavor. Through the end of March, customers who mention "Chopsticks NY" and check in at KULU Desserts on Facebook at purchase will receive a 20% discount on their purchase.

Location: 127 W. 3rd St.
(bet. Broadway and W. 4th St.)
New York, NY 10012
TEL: 212-432-0861
804 42nd St., Brooklyn, NY 11220
TEL: 718-440-3818

37-40 West St., New York, NY 10011
TEL: 212-334-3322

44-25 Broadway, Dumbo, NY 11201
www.kubokan.com

Free Mineral Treatment for New Patients

Dental Serenity

Dental Serenity, a Manhattan office, specializes in general dentistry, cosmetic dentistry and more. This March, new patients can receive a free mineral treatment to strengthen the tooth enamel when they receive a dental consultation, x-rays and cleaning. With flexible payment options, with or without insurance, Dental Serenity works closely with its patients to help maintain a healthy smile.

Location: 515 Madison Ave., (at 32nd St.), Suite # 1225
New York, NY 10022
TEL: 212-851-0344
www.dentalserenity.co

Free Free Ring, Plain Rock BAUM'S SHD



BAUM'S SHD is a Japanese bakery opened in South Williamsburg in January with a variety of exceptional hand-crafted sides made from high quality ingredients. BAUM'S SHD main feature is the traditional Japanese "bun" (ring cake) or "bunabun" composed of 30 layers. This unique cake can be bought at the store and online. This March, BAUM'S SHD will give a free serving of Free Ring Plain Rock (\$6 value) with a purchase of a slice or a whole Bunabun (also when you mention "Chopsticks NY").

Location: 88 S. 9th St., (bet. S. 9th and Ave. C)
Brooklyn, NY 11211
TEL: 347-571-0747
www.baums-shd.com

Freebie Sweet Potato Shakes Special Kamasa Jyuwa / Tami Jazo

Tami Jazo, a midtown Manhattan Japanese restaurant, will be offering Kuro no Shikon (Japanese sweet potato shakes) by Kamasa Jyuwa during the month of March. Crafted with premium sweet potatoes made by an award-winning potato grower using locally made rice koji, this shake goes through an aging process that helps it mature into a well-balanced taste. Enjoy a glass of Kuro no Shikon for 15 from 5:30, 7:30 pm and for \$8 after 7:30 pm (Reg. \$10) during the campaign period.

Location: 227 E. 33rd St., (bet. 2nd & 3rd Ave.)
New York, NY 10002
TEL: 404-497-1254



DEAL OF THE MONTH

15 FREE Tickets to the New York International Auto Show

March 25-April 3

Jacob Javits Center

The 2016 New York International Auto Show is North America's first and largest attended auto show dating back to 1963. This 2016, nearly 1300 cars and trucks will be showcased featuring cutting edge design and extraordinary innovation. The event will also display the world's automakers' newest vehicles and latest futuristic concept cars. Some of the latest models that have been debuted before in this show are the 2016 Hyundai Tucson Hybrid, 2016 Chevrolet Spark and the 2016 Jaguar XJ. One of the newest models to confirm its debut at the New York International Auto Show is the 2017 Buick Encore. The Buick is a popular car based from China which also made a debut at the 2016 Detroit Auto Show. Apart from fancy cars, there has been virtual tour booths and musical performances. Chopsticks NY will be giving away tickets to 15 lucky readers to attend this exciting event. Email auto chopsticks@chopsticksny.com with "Auto Show" in the subject line by Mar. 13 for a chance to win!

Location: 625 W. 26th St., (bet. 11th and 12th Ave.)
New York, NY 10001
info.newyorkauto.com



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